

Hafa Adai!

Legislation seeks limit to birth tourism. **PAGE 2**
9th Circuit affirms Leyda Ada's conviction, sentence. **PAGE 3**

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 135

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY JULY 10, 2019

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

IN LAWSUIT FILED BY IPI AGAINST CCC

Modified TRO extended

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The modified temporary restraining order in place against the Commonwealth Casino Commission has been extended because Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo believes that the lawsuit will not be resolved before the expiration.

During the preliminary injunction hearing yesterday, Govendo ordered for the extension of the TRO that expires

today to give him enough time to form an opinion based on arguments and the evidence

See TRO on Page 4

PSS gets top audit grade

» **Unbiased audit says of 'clean opinion'**

The CNMI Public School System maintains that it has received the highest opinion, the best audit grade possible from an unbiased, independent and federally-mandated audit for fiscal 2018, which was performed by Burger and Comer, P.C.,



Muna

the Office of Commissioner of Education Glenn P. Muna said in a statement yesterday.

In particular, the audited year revealed that PSS successfully managed and administered \$91.914 million in combined mon-

See PSS on Page 4



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Participants of Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Summer Reading Program Session B participate in an activity with the assistance of JKPL staff yesterday.

MARC A. VENUS

See story on Page 5

New information unfolds in IPI lawsuit

» **CCC could've leaked financial statement to Legislature**

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

No resolution was reached between the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC and the Commonwealth Ca-

sino Commission during the preliminary injunction hearing yesterday because new information about the Ernst & Young audited financial statement for 2018 came to light.

See LAWSUIT on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Skymark Airlines Inc. has announced more charter flights from Japan to The Marianas, hoping to entice Japanese travelers to the Pacific island destination this summer.

PAGE 7



BUSINESS

Loco & Taco located in Garapan across Paseo de Marianas is the first and only Mexican restaurant on island to date.

PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE

The man who accused Kevin Spacey of groping him at a Massachusetts resort island bar in 2016 asserted his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and refused to testify Monday after being questioned about text messages the defense claims were deleted.

PAGE 20



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Legislation seeks limit to birth tourism

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Federal Foreign Affairs Committee chaired by Rep. Luis John DLG Castro (R-Saipan) will entertain in its next meeting a House Joint Resolution that seeks to provide mutual consent to amend the Covenant to limit birth tourism in the CNMI.

Castro in an interview Monday said they feel that the Legislature as well as Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and the Torres administration have seen that birth tourism is a problem over the years has gotten too hard to ignore.

Castro said his committee would be entertaining House Joint Resolution 21-4 in its next meeting to review and see what questions will be raised to this legislation.

House Joint Resolution 21-4 is in the calendar for this Friday's House special session.

Castro said there are some issues with regard to the situation, including birth right citizenship.

Speaker Blas Jonathan Attao (R-Saipan) introduced House Joint Resolution 21-4 that proposes to amend Article III, Section 303 of the Covenant to establish the CNMI in political union with the U.S.

Article III, Section 303 of the Covenant states that all persons born in the CNMI on or after the effective date of that section, and subject to the U.S. jurisdiction, will be citizens of the U.S. at birth.

Under House Joint Resolution 21-4, all persons born in the CNMI on or after the effective date of Section 303 and subject to the U.S. jurisdiction, having been born to persons domiciled in the CNMI or holding U.S. citizenship, will be citizens of the U.S. at birth.

Section 303 shall not affect persons who have been granted citizenship of the U.S. prior to the effective date of the amendment, the resolution states.

Castro said birth tourism is not a concern in the CNMI alone as there are several places within the U.S. that have that same problem in regard to immigration matters.

"The problem is tough to ignore as time went on," said Castro, adding that his committee is going to further discuss it or pass. "It's a very serious matter," said Castro as he expressed the need to get all the information and concerns so they can figure out what would be the likely resolution in addressing this legislation.

Castro said it is a constitutional issue as the U.S. Constitution as well as the Covenant specifies that there are certain rights.

"If you are born in U.S. soil you are automatically considered a U.S. citizen whether by naturalization or by statute. So those are some of the issues that we are taking into consideration," he said.

Castro said a lot of times there's been talk in Washington, D.C. about birth tourism not just between Sablan and the federal government but also between the Torres administration and the federal government.

"Of course, the Legislature sees that this is an issue that



Castro

has always been kept fresh due to, I guess, its severity. We are here to look at the resolution and see where we can go from there," he added.

Attao in the resolution disclosed that while overall births in the CNMI have fallen, birth to visitors to the Commonwealth have increased 175 percent between 2010 and 2012 and have outnumbered those of any other ethnicity.

Attao said the CNMI government acknowledges that the rise of birth tourism has had a deleterious effect for Commonwealth residents, including a diminishment of available resources at the Commonwealth Health Center and the fiscal costs associated with tourists who fail to pay the costs of natal treatment, as well as unnecessary risks to the health and safety of the mother and child.

Last Oct. 19, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres requested the initiation of 902 Consultation with the U.S. government re-

garding the Commonwealth's continued access to visitors under the Department of Homeland Security's discretionary parole program.

Last May 15, Torres and U.S. Special Representative Douglas W. Domenech provided President Donald J. Trump with the report of the 902 Consultations.

Torres and Domenech made four recommendations, among them to modify the discretionary parole program of the U.S.

Homeland Security to reduce the maximum period of parole from 45 days to 14 and electronic screening and vetting prior to arrival at the port of entry.

Attao said the CNMI has been informed during the 902 Consultations that one of the challenges tied to the existence of the Commonwealth's discretionary parole program is a recent increase in birth tourism, and found that such rise had had deleterious effects for Commonwealth residents.

CHCC implementing austerity measures

The Commonwealth Health Care Corp. is committed to contributing to the Commonwealth's pathway to economic recovery and, to that end, the CHCC is implementing across-the-board cost containment measures in all parts of the corporation.

Part of CHCC's strategy includes solutions to allow for more healthcare to be provided at CHCC, helping to reduce referral costs. Implementation of these measures will not sacrifice our

commitment to providing quality services and maintaining our accreditation.

The CHCC welcomes input from our community. Please access our public inquiry page at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/index.php/public-inquiry> to leave feedback.

For more information about CHCC programs, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950. (PR)

9th Circuit affirms Leyda Ada's conviction, sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed yesterday Leyda Ada's conviction of perjury and the sentence of two years and three months of prison term imposed on her.

According to the Ninth Circuit decision issued by Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas and judges Consuelo M. Callahan and Morgan Christen, the evidence of the \$4,000 in cash in Ada's underwear drawer and her knowing access to bank accounts is sufficient to support the jury's verdict of perjury.

The judges said Ada has not offered any persuasive reasons for a deviation from the general rule in her sentence.

On June 26, 2015, a federal jury reached a verdict, acquitting Ada of the charges of conspiracy to commit money laundering and money laundering, but finding her guilty as to the crime of perjury.

A cross-reference in the U.S. Sentencing Guideline allows for an enhancement of sentence when the perjury furthers an underlying crime.

The Ninth Circuit judges said in light of the evidence of Ada's awareness of the money laundering scheme, and her use of the proceeds (such as playing poker), she has not shown that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona erred in applying the cross-reference

to her perjury conviction.

The judges said although the jury acquitted Ada on the money laundering counts, the evidence supports a determination that she was aware of the scheme and benefitted from it.

Accordingly, the judges said, Ada has not shown that Manglona abused her discretion in attributing more than \$1.5 million to her despite assertion that she did not know the scope of her husband's illegal scheme.

The judges said Ada has not offered any persuasive reasons for a deviation from the general rule in her sentence.

On June 26, 2015, a federal jury reached a verdict, acquitting Ada of the charges of conspiracy to commit money laundering and money laundering, but finding her guilty as to the crime of perjury.

The jurors found Ada guilty of perjury when she signed "no" to the question in the "Criminal Justice Act form" if she has any cash on hand or money in savings or checking accounts.

In order to determine whether Ada could afford her own lawyer when she was arrested, she was required by the court to truthfully complete a financial affidavit.

In the paragraph entitled

"Employment," Ada also checked the "no" box indicating that she was not employed.

According to the indictment, Ada's statements were false because she knew that she had \$4,000 in cash at the time in her personal clothing drawer at her house and had access to and was an authorized user of at least two bank accounts.

On April 24, 2016, Manglona sentenced Ada to two years and three months imprisonment. Ada then appealed to the Ninth Circuit to reverse her conviction and sentence.

Manglona granted Ada's request for release pending the outcome of her appeal.

In her appeal, Ada, through counsel, argued that the questions on the Criminal Justice Act Form 23 were fundamentally ambiguous and therefore her answers are not false.

Ada asserted that the cross-reference is not applicable to her situation and the evidence does not support its application.

See 9TH CIRCUIT on Next Page

ARMATECH
Hotel Electronic
Touch Switch
Services and Maintenance
Tel: (670) 234-8895/97 • Fax: (670) 234-8894
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 • (670) 783-8895

Midea ELECTRIC Liberation Day PROMOTIONS

MIDEA AIRCONDITIONING AUX BRAND AIRCONDITIONING FREEZER REFRIGERATOR WASHER WATER DISPENSER LED ITEMS FAUCETS HARDWARE HOME APPLIANCES RECHARGEABLE SPEAKER ETC.	AUX BRAND 9000 BTU 17 SEER DC INVERTER	ORG \$680 HOT SALE \$599
	MIDEA BRAND WINDOW A/C 5000 BTU	ORG \$229 HOT SALE \$199
	MIDEA BRAND 21 CU. FT. STANDING FREEZER	ORG \$1299 HOT SALE \$1099
	MIDEA BRAND DRYER	ORG \$799 HOT SALE \$639
	MIDEA BRAND 14.8 CU FT REFRIGERATOR	HOT SALE \$699

New Arrival on Hot Sale

HAO'S AIR CONDITIONING

Phone: 234-0680 / 285-0680 Fax: 234-0688
For more info, check us at the store.
INSTALLMENT AVAILABLE

Located at CK across the U.S. Post Office

ARC
AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan

Michelle's Beachfront Happy Hour

Clock out and join us for drinks & breathtaking sunset views at Beachfront Happy Hour at Aqua Resort Club's Michelle's Bar!

Available Daily from 4:30pm - 7:30pm

50% off Select Beverages
Complimentary Chips & Salsa
Food & Beer Specials!!!
32oz. Corona or Asahi - Only \$6.00!!!

Try Our New TACO STATION Only \$1.50 each!

Hillbroom seeks payment of \$22K in costs, attorney's fees

Junior Larry Hillbroom has sought payment of \$22,646 in total costs and attorney's fees from Guam lawyer David J. Lujan as federal court's sanction over the lawyer's behavior during his deposition.

Deposition refers to the taking of testimony of a witness outside of court.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy earlier had ruled that sanctions are appropriate against Lujan.

At a hearing last May, Kennedy ordered Hillbroom to submit more details and justification for the costs.

In his supplemental motion for attorney's fees and costs

filed Monday, Hillbroom, through counsel Rachel A. Dimitruk, said the attorney's fees are those incurred in bringing the motion to compel and this filing before the court.

Dimitruk said Hillbroom has presented costs which cannot be recouped from Lujan's decision to halt his deposition in Guam.

Dimitruk said Hillbroom also bear new and additional costs in having to now fly to Saipan and conduct the last two days of Lujan's deposition that Hillbroom would not have otherwise incurred if the deposition had continued in Guam as scheduled.

Dimitruk said the costs be-

ing sought by Hillbroom are not duplicative.

Dimitruk provided the court with details about the costs and fees that include cancellation fee for stenographer, payment for the room for the deposition, hotel room costs, car rental, per diems, legal fees, and plane tickets.

Kennedy ordered that Lujan's deposition will recommence for two days and there will be no obstructing and no unethical behavior.

Hillbroom and Lujan agreed that the deposition of Lujan will be at the U.S. District Court for the NMI on July 29 to 30.

Kennedy granted Hillb-

room's motion for the costs and attorney's fees incurred in bringing the motion to compel.

Hillbroom filed the motion to compel Lujan to resume his deposition on Saipan as Lujan allegedly displayed obstructive conduct and improperly left during the deposition in Guam. Hillbroom had also asked the court to sanction Lujan.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona had earlier found that Lujan violated Model Rules of Professional Conduct when he engaged in telephone conversations with Hillbroom and taped such conversations.

Manglona prohibited Lu-

jan from making any contact with Hillbroom absent a written consent from Hillbroom's counsel.

Manglona granted Hillbroom's request that defendants Lujan and Barry J. Israel pay their attorney's fees in the amount of \$11,750 for the costs of replying to defendants' motion to dismiss Hillbroom's lawsuit.

Hillbroom is suing Lujan and Israel for allegedly conspiring with former trustee Keith Waibel to inflate their contingency fee when the

fortune of the late DHL co-founder Larry Hillblom was still undergoing proceedings in the Superior Court.

Lujan and Israel, who were former lawyers for Hillbroom, denied the allegations.

Hillbroom is one of the four DNA-proven children of Hillblom. His name is spelled differently from that of Hillblom.

Hillblom died in a seaplane crash off Anatahan waters on May 21, 1995. Although his body was never recovered, the court declared him dead. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

generally the time of the year we collect more revenue in higher percentages than other quarters."

Excise tax, according to the Finance secretary, is doing well with collections trumping last year's figures within the same time period by a reported \$6 million. Atalig did not immediately provide the specific figures.

"...Based on my meeting [last Monday] with the directors, our excise tax collection is \$6 million above last year's number for the same period," he said.

According to the Finance secretary, collections are up by \$6 million. Atalig emphasized, however, that the slight economic comeback is "not as good as we expect."

Citing Marianas Visitors Authority tourist numbers, he noted that there is a "drastic decline" in tourist numbers compared to the same time period last fiscal year.

"I believe looking at the numbers we are doing better," he noted. "In summer time we are expecting higher rates... of travel. The fourth quarter is

improving as projected and based on the adjusted budget. I am confident we would hit our projected [budget]," he said. "...We are seeing a little more business activity; numbers are coming back," he continued, referring to a possibly resurgent tourism economy.

Atalig emphasized, however, that the slight economic comeback is "not as good as we expect."

According to the Finance secretary, collections are up by \$6 million. Atalig emphasized, however, that the slight economic comeback is "not as good as we expect."

"I believe looking at the numbers we are doing better," he noted. "In summer time we are expecting higher rates... of travel. The fourth quarter is

9TH CIRCUIT

From Page 3

She also argued that Manglona erred in not considering her request for a downward departure based on family ties.

On the Criminal Justice Act Form 23, the Ninth Circuit judges ruled that Ada has not shown that the questions on the form are fundamentally ambiguous.

The judges said Ada answered "no" to the question "Have you any cash on hand or money in savings or checking accounts?"

The judges said the evidence shows that police seized \$4,000 in cash from Ada's underwear drawer during a search of her home and that she had access to several bank accounts.

The judges said in the context of a person who has been arrested and presumably searched, Ada's argument that "on hand" limited the question to what she had on her person is not reasonable.

On cross-reference issue, the judges ruled that Ada has not shown that the evidence in her case does not support the application of the cross-reference to her perjury.

On error issue, the judges said Ada has not shown that Manglona erred in attributing to her more than \$1.5 million in laundered funds.

The judges said although the jury acquitted Ada on the

TRO

From Page 1

presented by both Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC and the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

Govendo extended the modified TRO for another 10 days.

According to IPI lawyer Viola Alepuyo, she thinks it's very fair for both parties and the court to extend the TRO.

"I think it would be unfair to say 'no your honor, you have to make a decision

today' I mean he's got a lot of documents to look at, a lot of testimonies to review, he also has to look into the law and the constitution. That's not something you can do overnight. I think 10 days to review this issue is not even a long time, that's actually a very short time," she said.

Alepuyo added that most of the information has already been made public since the TRO was modified over a week ago so it's only fair that the court is given time to rule on the remaining information.

"Most of the information is already available it's just the information that we're saying is confidential is not available, I think it's fair the judge be given 10 days to make his decision," she said.

The preliminary injunction hearing has also been continued from yesterday as no resolution has been reached.

According to a previous article on *Saipan Tribune*, the TRO was quashed during a hearing last week but not dissolved in order to preserve certain financial information while also allowing

the release of information required by law.

IPI still insists that some, if not all, of the information in the IPI financial statements are confidential.

This includes gross gaming revenue, business gross revenue tax payments, among other things.

CCC has already made accessible to the public the monthly reports that IPI submitted to the commission from 2015 through 2018, while certain information on IPI financial statements are still to be litigated.

were resolved".

Thus, PSS once again achieved—or continually qualifies—as a low-risk auditee.

Based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the "unmodified opinion" is the "best" or highest of all four (4) types of audit findings. It is issued when an auditor determines that each of the financial records provided is free of any misrepresentation.

In addition, a clean opinion indicates that financial records have been maintained in accordance with the GAAP.

Following the "unmodified opinion," the three other types of audit report according to ranking are: qualified opinion, adverse opinion and disclaimer opinion. (PSS)

PSS

From Page 1

ies (\$43.348 million local and \$48.565 million federal). This is the largest funding ever administered by PSS since its strict adherence to external/independent audit in 2009.

The independent audit was completed on June 30, 2019 and findings were presented during the July 2, 2019 CNMI Board of Education meeting. A copy was also submitted to the Office of the Public Auditor. The audit was conducted in conformity with the auditing standards generally accepted by the U.S. Government Auditing Standards and issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

In its expert professional judgement of "PSS Financial Statements," Burger & Comer, P.C. said: "In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the PSS, as of September 30, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

Burger & Comer, P.C. has a strong positive opinion on each of PSS' major federal programs. In particular, the

70-page report noted that "(t) he PSS complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2018."

In arriving at an "unmodified" or clean opinion, Burger & Comer, P.C.'s expert opinion particularly highlighted "no material noncompliance to financial statement noted" on PSS' finances and its expenditure of both federal and local funds.

Burger & Comer, P.C. also particularly noted that there was "no question cost identified for Fiscal 2018" and "all travel and financial statement findings in previous audit

were resolved".

Thus, PSS once again achieved—or continually qualifies—as a low-risk auditee.

Based on Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the "unmodified opinion" is the "best" or highest of all four (4) types of audit findings. It is issued when an auditor determines that each of the financial records provided is free of any misrepresentation.

In addition, a clean opinion indicates that financial records have been maintained in accordance with the GAAP.

Following the "unmodified opinion," the three other types of audit report according to ranking are: qualified opinion, adverse opinion and disclaimer opinion. (PSS)

LAWsuit

From Page 1

The Superior Court had to go into recess after hours of heated litigation yesterday and ordered a continuance today because new information regarding who released the Ernst & Young audited financial statements for IPI came up.

During the hearing, it was brought to IPI's attention that the report could have been leaked to the Legislature, who has made the document public, by the Commonwealth Casino Commission. However, there is no confirmation yet.

CCC's lawyer, assistant attorney general Michael Er-

nest, said that the Ernst & Young audited financial statement for IPI could have been disclosed to the Legislature by the casino commission but he was not sure.

Ernest also said that it could have gotten to the Legislature through the House Gaming Committee.

Ernest withdrew from entering the financial statement as an exhibit during the litigation yesterday.

According to IPI lawyer Viola Alepuyo, she and co-counsel Phillip Tydingco were shocked to learn that CCC could have been the source for the leaked audited financial statements.

"We really don't have any confirmation but we were kind

of surprised by who gave out the financial statements, that's all. We just didn't know. I'm not going to assume but the [counsel for CCC] said what they said and now we just have to wait and see," she said.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo ordered for IPI and CCC to return today at 1:30pm to continue litigation.

Govendo also ordered for the extension of the modified temporary restraining order as it expires today.

In a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan), who also made information from the documents public during a session, said that he received

the Ernst & Young report from House Gaming Committee chair Rep. Ralph Yumul (R-Saipan).

"I would be happy to disclose the information because I don't believe that it should be a secret. I am a Gaming Committee member. I sent in an OGA request that I showed to Gaming Committee chair [Rep.] Ralph Yumul and I said

'Do you have any of this information?' and...he looked at this information and he handed me what I was looking for—that particular document. So, I got that information from the Gaming Committee chairman. As to where he got it, I don't know where he got it," he said.

jan from making any contact with Hillbroom absent a written consent from Hillbroom's counsel.

Manglona granted Hillbroom's request that defendants Lujan and Barry J. Israel pay their attorney's fees in the amount of \$11,750 for the costs of replying to defendants' motion to dismiss Hillbroom's lawsuit.

Hillbroom is suing Lujan and Israel for allegedly conspiring with former trustee Keith Waibel to inflate their contingency fee when the

fortune of the late DHL co-founder Larry Hillblom was still undergoing proceedings in the Superior Court.

Lujan and Israel, who were former lawyers for Hillbroom, denied the allegations.

Hillbroom is one of the four DNA-proven children of Hillblom. His name is spelled differently from that of Hillblom.

Hillblom died in a seaplane crash off Anatahan waters on May 21, 1995. Although his body was never recovered, the court declared him dead. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

generally the time of the year we collect more revenue in higher percentages than other quarters."

Excise tax, according to the Finance secretary, is doing well with collections trumping last year's figures within the same time period by a reported \$6 million. Atalig did not immediately provide the specific figures.

"...Based on my meeting [last Monday] with the directors, our excise tax collection is \$6 million above last year's number for the same period," he said.

According to the Finance secretary, collections are up by \$6 million. Atalig emphasized, however, that the slight economic comeback is "not as good as we expect."

"I believe looking at the numbers we are doing better," he noted. "In summer time we are expecting higher rates... of travel. The fourth quarter is

money laundering counts, the evidence supports a determination that she was aware of the scheme and benefitted from it.

With respect to the family ties matter, the judges said Manglona acknowledged Ada's request for a downward departure in the sentencing guideline and explained that such a departure is disfavored.

Ada used to be a sales representative for Midwest Medical Supply Co. Inc., a Missouri-based company that had supplied dialysis consumables and equipment to the Commonwealth Health Center.

Leyda Ada's husband, Melvin Ada, is a former employee of the Commonwealth Health Center. He pleaded guilty to 56 charges for misappropriating and diverting CNMI Treasury checks made payable to Midwest Medical Supply totaling over \$1.7 million.

In December 2015, Melvin Ada was slapped with a sentence of 12.7 years imprisonment.

In October 2017, the Ninth Circuit affirmed Melvin Ada's sentence.

The Ninth Circuit, however, ruled that the District Court erred in awarding Midwest Medical Supply Company restitution in the amount of \$132,565.

The Ninth Circuit vacated the restitution award and remanded to the District Court for its recalculation.

JKPL Summer Reading Program kicks off

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Summer Reading Program kicked off yesterday. The program's theme is "A Universe of Stories!"

Participants were introduced to space-related activities, programs, and reading challenges. Other activities included are the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)-related activities, exploratory space programs, arts & crafts, music, dance, story exploring activities, and many more.

Participants will also be going to several field trips

throughout the island, as they will be visiting the Guma Sakman today and the NMI Museum on Friday.

Free lunch and breakfast are provided to all registered participants, courtesy of the Public School System.

The program will be held until July 19 and there are two ongoing sessions. Session A: ages 6-8, will be from 8:30am to 11:30am. Session B: ages 9 to 12, will be from 12:30pm to 3pm.

According to JKPL technical services librarian Beth Demapan, both sessions are full and each session holds 60 participants with a total of 120 participants.

"We have a waiting list and

if there are participants that want to back out, we will add them into the program," Demapan added.

For those who were unable to join the event, JKPL will also be initiating its annual Bookmobile Summer Library Program. The Bookmobile will be providing a high-quality summer reading program covering the remote villages.

The Children's Library will be closed until 4pm for the duration of the Summer Reading Program.

For more information about the Summer Reading Program or the Bookmobile Summer Library Program, contact the JKPL at (670) 235-7322.

\$2B floating missile defense radar back in Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP)—A large missile defense radar mounted on a modified floating oil platform has returned to Hawaii.

The \$2 billion Sea-Based X-Band Radar was back at Pearl Harbor for regular maintenance and installation of system upgrades, Missile Defense Agency spokeswoman Maria Njoku told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.

Shore personnel will conduct inspections and surveys, and crew members will receive training, she said.

The Missile Defense Agency plans to keep the radar, which resembles a giant golf ball, at sea for more than 300 days in the next fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 to "address the continued missile test activity in North Korea."

The agency plans to have the radar spend 330 days at sea each year between 2021 and 2024.

The military also plans to build a series of land-based sensors that will also track ballistic missiles. These in-

clude the \$1 billion Homeland Defense Radar-Hawaii, which is expected to be operational in 2023.

"With the addition of the long-range discriminating radar in Alaska, the homeland defense radar in Hawaii and the future Pacific radar, we will have in place a diverse sensor architecture in the Pacific to provide an improved and persistent" missile-tracking capability, former Missile Defense Agency Director Lt. Gen. Sam Greaves testified in April.



Fisherman's Wharf
Fresh Local Fish, Lobster & Beef

**GRAND
Opening**
July 10, 2019

Open Monday - Sunday
10:30am - 2:00pm
5:30pm - 10:00pm



GARAPAN SITE MAP

For reservations, please call 285-6134/233-9995



**START HERE.
GO ANYWHERE.**

Registration for **NMC's Fall 2019** semester is *ongoing until August 23, 2019*. Start your way toward your degree today!

First Day of Classes
August 26, 2019

Learn More!
Attend a **FREE Info Session** on
July 25 and August 8, 2019
Time: 5:30pm
Location: NMC Library

For more information, log on to
www.marianas.edu or contact the Office of Admissions & Records at oar@marianas.edu or call 237-6768 / 6769 / 6771

Math & English Placement Exam Dates
July 10, 16, 18, 22, 24, 29, 31
August 2, 5, 7, 14, 15, 19, 20-22

English and Math placement tests starts at 9:30am. Call 237-6774 to make an appointment.



www.facebook.com/NMC.Proa
www.twitter.com/GoProa
www.instagram.com/NMC.Proa



CNMI sees 1st quarter fall in JVAs, job openings for 2019

By MARC A. VENUS
 marc_venus@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

The Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas is experiencing a fall on Job Vacancy

Announcements or JVAs in the first quarter of 2019. Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente shared this to members of the Rotary Club of Saipan during their usual Tuesday

meetings yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

She said that the CNMI DOL's 2019 first quarter JVA numbers dropped by 10% compared to 2018's first quar-

ter numbers. As of yesterday, the numbers show that 5,200 JVAs have been posted and only 14,000 job openings were seen.

Benavente reported that in 2016, there were over 6,000 JVAs with a total of 38,000 job openings.

She reports that 2017 saw a rise with about 8,000 JVAs and a total of 39,000 job openings.

Last year also saw a rise in JVAs as the CNMI Department of Labor received 9,000

JVAs and a significant rise of 42,000 job openings.

"The trend was continuing to grow, meaning the economy was strong and businesses were needing more people," Benavente added.

Benavente points out that the causes behind the fall in 2019's first quarter JVA numbers is from Super Typhoon Yutu and Typhoon Mangkhut; with both causing a significant amount of businesses to close down,

observe reduced hours, or reduce employment numbers.

"There are some businesses still undergoing recovery," Benavente said.

She states the other two causes are the removal of the Philippines from the H-2B worker visa program and the CNMI's prevailing wage.

Benavente also thanked the United States Department of Labor for providing millions of dollars in disaster assistance.

Grand Mariana in process of removal

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
 Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has hired a salvage company to remove its yacht *Grand Mariana* that has been aground near Micro Beach since Super Typhoon Yutu.

According to Lt. Bill Fitzgerald, supervisor of the Marine Safety Detachment for the CNMI under the U.S. Coast Guard sector Guam, IPI has decided to salvage the yacht and hired Resolve Marine Group, a salvage company, over two weeks ago for the project.

Currently, Resolve is in the process of installing inflat-

able bags beneath the vessel to lift it up from the water so the company can pull it out to place it on another boat to remove it from the reef.

Fitzgerald said it could take a couple more days before the yacht is completely removed from the reef and the MSD is still conducting further investigation on the yacht to see if there are any citations to give.

Fitzgerald said it is important to remove the *Grand Mariana* to avoid potential or ongoing oil spills and so it is no longer a hazard to ships and boats that are navigating near the area.

Fitzgerald explained that the Coast Guard is responsible for ensuring that the vessel is

not hazardous to marine life and that IPI is being responsible by cleaning up any pollution from the vessel.

"That was done several months ago so as much pollution as we could get off, we removed from the vessel already, and now we've returned the responsibility back to the owner," he said.

Due to the hazardous seas and strong waves during Super Typhoon Yutu back in October 2018, the *Grand Mariana* drifted from the Smiling Cove Marina to the reef near Micro Beach and has been stuck there since.

The Coast Guard was involved as it seemed to pose a threat to marine life.



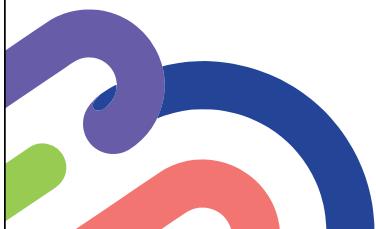
MARC A. VENUS

CNMI Department of Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente delivers her presentation to the Rotary Club of Saipan during their usual Tuesday meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

WIC POP UP CLINIC

When: July 9, 10, & 11, 2019 (Tuesday - Thursday)
Time: 8:00am - 4:00pm
 (Close 12pm - 1pm)
Venue: Kagman Community Health Center, Admin Office
Call: (670) 285-4069

WIC provides healthy food, nutrition education, and breastfeeding guidance to more than 3,000 moms and children in the CNMI. If you are pregnant, a caregiver, or a mom with children under 5, you can get the right personalized support for you and your family.



This ad is funded by USDA, CDFA Program No. 10.557, Federal Award No. 7NM700NM5."



This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
 1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program 2020 State Plan is now available for public review and comments from July 08-12, 2019. Interested members of the general public may review the CNMI WIC Program 2020 State Plan at the WIC Program's Administrative Office located in Upper Navy Hill, Mayoria Ave. Building N25. Office hours are from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm (Monday-Friday). All public comments must be submitted in writing to the WIC Program Administrator at the same office no later than close of business on July 12, 2019.

/s/ Esther L. Muna
 Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Erin Angela Camacho
 CNMI WIC Program Administrator



The CNMI WIC Program is an equal opportunity provider, and is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (CFDA #10.557, federal award #7NM700NM5).

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
 Telephone: (670) 236-8201/2 FAX: (670) 233-8756

More Japan-Marianas charter flights by Skymark

Skymark Airlines Inc. has announced more charter flights from Japan to The Marianas, hoping to entice Japanese travelers to the Pacific island destination this summer.

Skymark will operate nine charter flights from Tokyo Narita International Airport to the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport in August and September. The flights will depart Narita daily on Aug. 9-14 and Sept. 20-22.

"We extremely excited to see more directly air service from Japan to The Marianas being announced by Skymark Airlines for the summer season," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo. "The revival of the

Japan market remains a marketing and promotions priority for the MVA, as the market is critical to the growth of our tourism economy."

The airline will operate B737-800 planes for the charters, each offering 177 economy class seats. Five top travel agencies who successfully sold Skymark charter flights in March and April are again selling the upcoming flights: H.I.S., JTB, KNT, Rakuten, and Skypack Tours. The flights will depart Tokyo Narita at 10am and depart Saipan at 4:40pm.

To support the charter flights, the MVA has also created a promotional landing page on its Japan website with

Lt. Fitzgerald bids adieu to CNMI

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lt. Bill Fitzgerald, supervisor for the Marine Safety Detachment for the past two years, will be bidding farewell to the CNMI as his deployment comes to an end.

In an interview with Fitzgerald Monday, he said that the Marine Safety Detachment for the CNMI under the U.S Coast Guard sector Guam will undergo a turnover.

Fitzgerald and one other MSD staff will be leaving the CNMI and will be turning the position over to a new individual, Lt. Eugene Chong.

When asked about the past two years, Fitzgerald said he grew fond of the CNMI's warm weather and friendly people.

Fitzgerald will be leaving this Friday and Chong is scheduled to fly in next week

or the following week.

Fitzgerald said that in the past years, all the vessels in CNMI that have undergone inspection with the MSD have turned out safe

"We haven't issued a violation to any of our inspected vessels this past year. The only significant pollution incident was the *Grand Mariana*. We haven't had any serious pollution. A few minor damages on some of the boats but no pollution," he said.

The MSD primarily does vessel inspections including all passenger vessels. MSD also inspects the pre-positioned ships out in the reef and any of the foreign vessels that come in.

Aside from vessel inspections, the MSD also does casualty investigations, pollution response, search and rescues, and port inspections.



KIMBERLY A BAUTISTA
Lt. Bill Fitzgerald is set to bid adieu to the CNMI after two years of serving as the CNMI supervisor for the Marine Safety Detachment under the U.S Coast Guard sector Guam.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Skymark will operate nine charter flights from Tokyo Narita International Airport to Saipan International Airport in The Marianas from Aug. 9 to Sept. 22, 2019.

links to travel agency booking pages. The MVA has launched digital advertisements for Rota, Tinian, and Saipan at major train stations in Tokyo. The digital display ran on June 24-June 7, 2019, and included the tagline, "Fly on Skymark charter flights to Saipan, only 3.5 hours away." (MVA)

Smiles Wednesday!

Earn more Smiles Points,
redeem rewards faster.

Earn 12 Smiles Points for
every gallon you purchase
on Wednesday's!



Offer valid from June 26, 2019 to July 31, 2019.

Energy lives here™

Call Mobil's toll-free hotline at 1-866-486-7751 Monday through Friday from 10am to 7pm or see Rules and Regulations poster in store for more details.

Mobil™

An ExxonMobil Brand

Chamber to hold 'Pitchfest' for entrepreneurs

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, with the support of the CNMI Small Business Development Center, is proud to present "Pitchfest." This event is an opportunity for entrepreneurs to share their innovative ideas with a panel of judges and an audience for a chance to win seed money that could help grow or launch a small business. This opportunity is open to anyone interested in starting a small business or those who have started a small business from January 2018-present.

Part of the mission of the Saipan Chamber of Com-

merce is to create a culture that supports business development and small business owners in the CNMI. Through the "Pitchfest," the Chamber aims to provide flexible grant opportunities for new and aspiring small business owners.

This year's theme is "Giving Wings to Ideas." The Chamber believes that the CNMI is home to some of the most resourceful, creative, and resilient people. A major deterrent for any aspiring small business owner is access to capital. In order to bridge that gap, the Chamber hopes to provide a unique opportunity

for the community. "We are excited to launch this new program under SCC. Small Businesses are the backbone of our community, and when they succeed, our community succeeds. Everyone knows someone with a great business idea or a strong passion or a talent, that's who we're looking for," stated Velma M. Palacios, SCC Board of Directors president.

The Pitchfest process is simple: 1.) All Applications will be reviewed and applicants will be scheduled for an interview with our panel of judges, 2.) Finalists will be selected then given event tick-

ets to sell. A percentage of the ticket sales will go towards the money pot for the winner. 3.) Finalists will have the opportunity to pitch in front of judges and a live audience and the winner will be awarded with cash prize upon submission of valid business license.

Finalists will enjoy networking opportunities with other entrepreneurs and will be able to showcase their business idea in front of hundreds of people including business owners and potential investors in the CNMI. The 2019 Pitchfest Winner will receive \$2,000 or more in seed money to start or grow your business, free Chamber membership un-

der the Start-Up Package (\$300 value), free Saipan Young Professionals Membership for one year (\$50 value), recognition plaque/trophy, and a sponsored gift bag from community sponsors (\$100 value).

Applications must be submitted on or before 5pm on Wednesday, July 24, to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Office located on the

SYP presents 'Emotional Intelligence'

Everyone tells you how important your Intelligence Quotient (IQ) is but no one tells you that your Emotional Intelligence (EQ) is just as important and may even be affecting you and others in the work place.

The Saipan Young Professionals is proud to present "Emotional Intelligence," a training seminar to be facilitated by Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions. In this training participants will be able to learn basic emotional intelligence skills to improve personal and working relationships; how to recognize emotional triggers in themselves and in others for more effective relationship management; and improve emotional intelligence to position themselves for personal, team, and business success.

Arenovski is a certified hospitality trainer for the American Hotel and Lodging Institute (AHLEI) and is the only Certified Gitomer Advisor in Micronesia. With over 35 years of experience, Arenovski offers a variety of effective professional development training for numerous businesses and organizations across the Marianas. The Saipan Young Professionals is humbled by his eagerness to volunteer his time and expertise to impart valuable

3rd floor of the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite #315. Application packets can be picked up at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office or viewed online at www.saipan-chamber.com. To register or for more information, please contact Mercilynn Kaneshi Palec at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipan-chamber.com. (PR)

information to the SYP membership and other young professionals on Saipan.

This training seminar will be held on Thursday, July 18, 2019 from 5:30pm to 8pm at the Chamber Office located on the

3rd floor of the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite #315. The training is free to registered Saipan Young Professionals and is \$35/non-SYP members. Advance registration is encouraged as limited seating is available. Participants will enjoy light refreshments and a chance to network with other business professionals in the community. To register or for more information, contact Mercilynn Kaneshi Palec at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipan-chamber.com.

The Saipan Young Professionals is an official committee of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower our enterprises as a resource, advocate, and connector for Saipan's private sector. Its vision is to create an island where businesses, family, and community succeed as one. For more information regarding SYP updates, please follow Saipan Young Professionals at <https://www.facebook.com/syp96950/> or email administrator@saipan-chamber.com. (PR)

**Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office**
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6804
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu • Website: www.marianas.edu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NMC RFP 19-002

NMC CREES AQUACULTURE FACILITY PROJECT

Northern Marianas College is soliciting sealed proposal for the renovation, repair and Design and Build of CREES Aquaculture Facility, As Terlaje Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. O-1 commencing Wednesday, June 19, 2019, between the hours of 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Proposal Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m., July 19, 2019, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. O-1, Administrative Services Office, Saipan, MP 96950.

For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the RFP via email to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

Mandatory pre-proposal meeting and Site Inspection: July 03, 2019 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Building J, CREES Conference room.

Discussion may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers.

NMC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and/or to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole discretion, to do so will be in the best interest of the College. All proposals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by the Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges

Hawaii law on prostitution convictions is 1st in nation

HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii on Tuesday became the first state in the U.S. to remove a requirement that a person be a victim of sex trafficking to have a prostitution conviction erased.

Legislation signed into law by Gov. David Ige tosses prostitution convictions for those who avoid additional convictions for three years, even if they can't prove they have been victims of sex trafficking.

Victim advocates say most trafficking victims aren't able to reveal or prove they're victims because they fear their pimp or sex buyer will retaliate. They may depend on their pimp or trafficker for their livelihood. Ige called the proof of victimization requirement "unrealistic."

The legislation passed unanimously in the state House and Senate, which are both dominated by Democrats.

Nationwide, the average age someone enters the sex trade is about 13, advocates say. It's similar in Hawaii, but advocates say trafficking is a bigger problem in the islands because of the large tourism industry and military population.

Tammy Bitanga was 15 when she was trafficked into the sex trade in Waikiki after running away from her foster home.

She met an older boyfriend who had her selling sex in Waikiki, then sent her to Alaska where she worked in gentlemen's clubs and escort services. She left when she got a ride to the airport and a relative bought her a plane ticket back home. She now works for a nonprofit that helps girls recover from being trafficked.

Bitanga was never arrested and doesn't have a criminal record. But she supports the legislation for others, as a conviction on your record makes it that much harder to leave prostitution behind, she said.

"You have this thing stuck on you. And then it's like, 'OK, well, the only job I'm going to get is to go back to that life. Because I'm already there,'" she said.

Previously, the law allowed sex trafficking convictions

expunged after six years, but only with proof of victimization.

"In 2019, the days of the scarlet letter are over," said state Sen. Laura Thielen, a Democrat representing Kailua and Waimanalo. "People who have been in prostitution should not have an onerous burden on them once they leave that job, to be able to vacate their record and be able to have access to other employment."

Khara Jabola-Carolus, the executive director of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, said 80% of women in prostitution in Hawaii were trafficked into it.

Voluntary prostitution is extremely rare, according to IMUAlliance, one of the state's largest victim service providers.

The organization says it has helped 135 victims escape sex slavery over the past 10 years. Each suffered "complex and overlapping trauma" including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety and substance abuse, the

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
POST BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANAS ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547 | FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Northern Marianas)
Housing Corporation)
Plaintiff,)
v-) CIVIL ACTION
RAMON S.) NO. 18-0410
DELA CRUZ)
and REBECCA B.)
DELA CRUZ)
Defendants.

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:
YOU HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated June 19, 2019 by order of the Court
/s/
Clerk of Court



AP Hawaii Gov. David Ige, right, and U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono chat before Ige signs bills in Honolulu on Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

group said.

"A 14-year-old doesn't wake up and say, 'I want to be a ho.' Right? Somebody coerced her into it. Somebody fraudulently enticed her into that lifestyle," Bitanga said.

"However you get involved in it, the bigger question is: When you're ready to get out, shouldn't you have that opportunity to get out?"



Saipan Centennial Lions Club, 2018 ICC

JOIN DCRM FOR
THIS YEAR'S
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21
INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP 2019

DURING
THE 2018
ICC, THE
CNMI

HAD
1,532
VOLUNTEERS

CLEANED
OVER
50
LOCATIONS

COLLECTED
9,180
POUNDS
OF TRASH

"HARNESSING THE POWER OF PEOPLE
TO FIGHT OCEAN POLLUTION"

The International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) is the world's largest single-day cleanup event with the goal of collecting and documenting trash littering our coastlines and waterways. Volunteers from states and territories throughout the U.S. and over 100 countries worldwide come together each year and participate in the cleanup event near them.

**SIGN UP TODAY AT
WWW.DCRM.GOV.MP**

For more information, contact the ICC Coordinators:
Colleen Flores at cflores@dcrm.gov.mp
Mallory Muña at mmuna@dcrm.gov.mp
(670) 664-8300/10/16



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP19-CHCC/CGC-016

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 29, 2019 **TIME: 2:00 PM**

"DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*Mandatory bidders meeting on July 03, 2019 @ 11:00 am, Saipan time @ CHCC Conference Room #3.

*Off-island vendors, please email Subroto Banerji @ Subroto.Banerji@dph.gov.mp for a Zoom link.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ SUBROTO BANNERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 135

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

California needs housing, but not in mountain lion country

The mountain lions of Southern California—facing dangerous freeway traffic, lethal poisons in their prey and the continued encroachment of humans into their habitat—are threatened with extinction. The question now is how much we care and what we're willing to do, spend or sacrifice to protect them.

The state outlawed hunting mountain lions three decades ago, so we haven't decimated them the way we did the grizzly bear. There are estimated to still be almost 6,000 in the state.

But wildlife experts say the number of mountain lions in central coastal and Southern California—genetically distinct subpopulations of the species—is so alarmingly low that they are in danger of becoming extinct. So the Center for Biological Diversity and the Mountain Lion Foundation have petitioned the California Fish and Game Commission to list all these groups of mountain lions, also known as cougars, as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act.

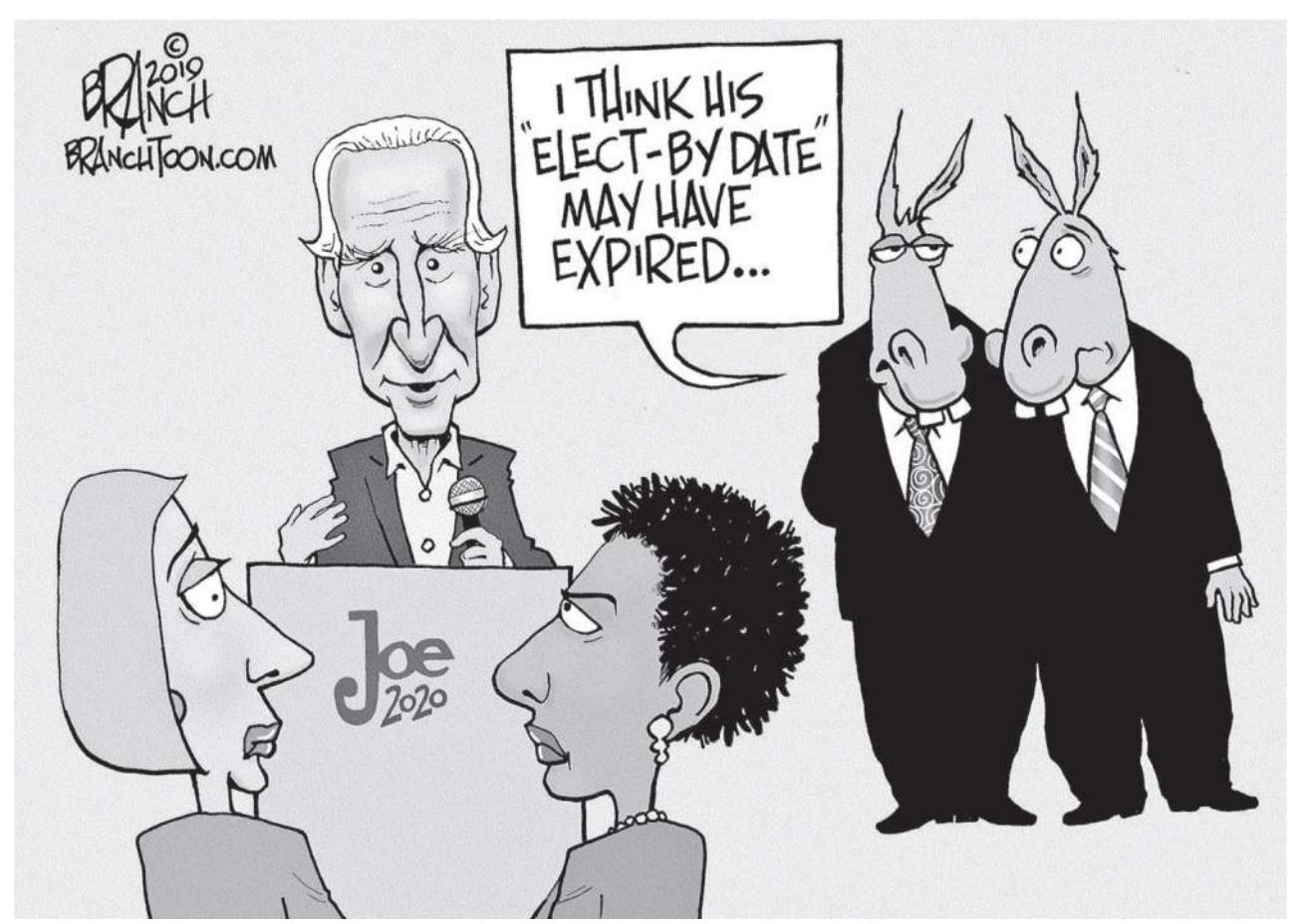
The petition lays out a grim scenario of life today for mountain lions: They are fatally hit by vehicles, poisoned by rodenticides or killed in fights with other cougars over territory (and lack of it.) They suffer burns from wildfires. They are genetically weakened from inbreeding. If they make the mistake of preying upon a rancher's livestock or someone's pet goats or alpacas, they could end up the target of a "depredation permit" sanctioning their killing.

In the city of Los Angeles and around it, they live in archipelagos of mountain habitats or—in the case of the famous cougar P-22—in Griffith Park, hemmed in by roads and freeways and housing developments. The leading threats to their survival are "habitat fragmentation" from urban development, and the lack of specially constructed wildlife crossings enabling them to cross freeways and move safely from one part of their habitat to another, experts say.

But here's the problem: If the lions were to be listed for protection, it would mean that any housing development or transportation project would be legally required to avoid harming lions' habitats and to preserve their pathways to open spaces and "connectivity" to the habitats of other mountain lions. And California is in the midst of a desperate housing crisis that is fueling homelessness, harming low-income communities and making it harder to attract and retain businesses; policymakers at the state and local level are strongly encouraging new construction and development.

Earlier this year, for instance, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the Centennial mega-development of 19,000 residences in the upper northwest corner of the county, despite warnings from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy that the development would sever a five-mile wide wildlife habitat linkage across Highway 128. This page editorialized against the project for its sprawl into a remote area, its inherent fire risks and the fact that it would result in more people driving long distances to work, creating extra traffic and greenhouse gas emissions.

See CALIFORNIA on Next Page



It's much too early to pay attention to the race for president

More than 18 million sturdy American TV viewers tuned in to the Democratic presidential debate in Miami on June 27. It was a new record.

Another 15 million-plus watched the first round the night before. That's 33 million total viewers, not including the many millions more who followed the two events online.

The high ratings were a surprise, and lots of people are excited that the carnival presidency of Donald Trump seems to have energized voters at an unusually early stage of the campaign.

Meanwhile, some of those who deliberately didn't watch—or couldn't sit through—the debates have been made to feel slack in their patriotic duty.

Don't feel guilty. It's too much, too soon.

The general election is 16 freaking months away. To put that timeline in perspective, consider this: A wharf rat that had babies the night of the first debate will produce 24 more litters between now and the day you numbly walk into the voting booth.

It's not healthy to obsess about anything, whether it's rodents or politics, for almost a year-and-a-half. It's also possible to pay attention to important developments without wasting a moment pondering ludicrous and impossible scenarios.

Let's begin with the alleged candidacy of Marianne Williamson, who appeared on stage the second night along with former Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. Kamala Harris, Sen. Bernie Sanders, South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg and others.

That Williamson even got into the debates while candidates such as Montana Gov. Steve Bullock missed the cut illustrates what a finely tuned operation the Democratic National Committee is running.

Williamson is an author of self-help books such as "Everyday Grace" and "The Divine Law of Compensation." She's a popular writer, but Dr. Seuss has a better chance of getting elected president—and he's dead.

A spiritual adviser to Oprah Winfrey, Williamson is famed for dispensing nuggets of wisdom, such as: "Joy is what happens to us when we allow ourselves to recognize how good things really are."

Let's hope she didn't drop that line on any of the 2,300 young migrants at the federal detention center in Homestead, which she visited during her South Florida stay. Things are really not so good when you're confined behind a guarded fence, far from your family.

Williamson got less than five minutes of speaking time during the debate, but she addressed Trump directly, vowing to "harness love for political purposes" and defeat him in 2020.

That was a cue to lunge for your remote and switch to Comedy Central, because clearly Williamson isn't interested in the White House. She's just trying to sell more books, and it's working. The

By CARL HIAASEN

Miami Herald

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at: The Miami Herald, 3511 NW 91st Ave., Miami, Fla., 33172.



next day she was the hottest name on social media.

Another person who made the debates difficult to take seriously was New York Mayor Bill de Blasio. When 76 percent of those polled in your own city don't think you should be president, you shouldn't run for president.

Many media commentators said it was a good thing to give 20 of the Democratic candidates a voice, even if they were talking over each other in a clunky format. And, judging by the ratings, many Americans were eager to hear something hopeful, inspiring or half-sensible.

As someone who wrote that Barack Obama (and later Donald Trump) had almost no chance of winning, I have lame credentials as a handicapper of crowded political races. Long shots do sometimes bloom into front-runners.

However, it's not going out on a limb to say with a high degree of confidence that the following debate participants will not be the Democratic nominee: Williamson, de Blasio, Andrew Yang, former Rep. John Delaney, Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, Rep. Tim Ryan, Rep. Eric Swalwell, Sen. Michael Bennet and Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper.

Some of them might have already bailed from the race by the time you read this column. For others, the clock is ticking.

Hickenlooper, for instance, is a bright guy who isn't widely hated in his home state. Sadly for him, and perhaps for the institution of democracy, this country simply isn't yet ready to elect anyone named Hickenlooper to be commander-in-chief.

Whether he qualifies for this month's debates depends on his poll results and fundraising.

However, Marianne Williamson will be back on the stage to promote her love-harnessing strategy and perhaps offer more of her best-selling pearls, such as this favorite:

"The top of one mountain is always the bottom of another."

Who knows what the hell that means, but any TV viewer who feels inspired to switch from the debate to a Mount Everest documentary will be forgiven.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

‘Wen Natting...’

Maribahan ekonomia muna` fan mamatkili tautauta siha gi hinalum didog na chinatsaga. Silensi i tanu` na esta na tañga i katma gi señgsuñg siha. Hu ekuñgug ñaihon pot ti otdinariu na finapus ha`ane.

I gobietnu ha anunsia este gi ma`pus na semana. Frañku ha mensiona posibilidat maribahan parehu setbisiu yan oran cho`chu` pot tinahuñg fondu.

Makat na asuntu pot ti asegurau bandan rinkohen kontribusion tax (aduana). ‘Nai menus aduana siempre inafekta suetdun empleau siha` lokue’.

Puede ha sustenigue` aduana ya ti tumunog mas ke pa`gu. Gaige guine na fondu para suetdun empleau yan setbisiun publicu. Patte na pinadesen tiempun ha`ilas!

Moneda: Gi ti maput na eskalera atan haf` kinalamten halum guma` familia sa` guiya ennau i tasasañgan ekonomia. I fondu gi monedan familia dumetetmina kinalamten halum guma` kontodu i hinanau tautau siha gi señgsuñg. Ginen halum, huyuñg!

Mauleg sa` guaha ayudun neñakanu` gi hechuran food stamps `nai guaha alibiu para i familia. Mit grasiyas na guaha este na ayudu. Hu chage ayu na tiempu `nai solu `an patten USDA na attikulu guaha. Hombre este makat sa` ti kinubre tat nesessida kumu pugas yan fina` totche siha.

Manu i guaha ayu `in usune `sino apprubecha hanum grifu yan mañglu haya. Chatsaga ayu na tiempu i tinilaikan Navy yan Interior! Enfin, mauleg in` dimemoria na ekonomia ha tutuhungue` gi halum guma` familia!

Chinatsaga: I hiniyuñg fiñkas Japones gineng Marianas i mas dñosu ni masusede gi halacha. Gaige guine futtunata. Humuyuñg!

Adelantu mafattu `an guaha nuebu na bisnis ni muna` guaha fondun adelantu yan cho`chu`. Sin este kase man-abende hit mahlug lapes yan talapus. Siempre u fattu halum gi guma` familia este na sinisede gi hechuran pinadese. Chatsaga!

Kada hu akanteha silensi i asuntu ha hogseyu` dañikulu na chinatsaga pot hutuñgu` signifikasioña kontra linala` tautauta siha guine na petlas. Pa`gu, sessu hu letke pot huli` e na makat na pinadese para u fumatoigue hit dispues.

Atan gi taiguine: mahuchum bisnis kontodu fondu maliñgu yan cho`chu`. Para manu hit dispues de tahoka pontan niyog gi papa` troñku?

CALIFORNIA

From Page 10

The supervisors also approved a mixed-use development near Castaic, called NorthLake, that would create 3,150 homes despite objections from environmental groups and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife that the development would harm crucial linkages for mountain lions and other wildlife between the Angeles National Forest and the Los Padres National Forest. Supervisor Kathryn Barger, who represents the area, said that it fulfilled a need for housing. The Center for Biological Diversity and the Endangered Habitats League are suing the county in an attempt to stop that development.

More such projects are bound to be proposed. If mountain lions were to be listed as threatened, these developments would be required to preserve existing corridors and protect habitats for mountain lions. New roads and freeways would have to include wildlife crossings. Would developers balk? Probably. One expert on property rights and environmental law says listing mountain lions would limit property owners' ability to develop in wide swaths of land near the Santa Monica and San Gabriel mountains by increasing the cost of projects.

But as severe as the housing crisis is in California, it must be addressed in a manner that comports with the state's other goals, including limiting emissions, protecting against wildfires, curtailing sprawl, promoting conservation — and preserving wildlife.

The staff of the Department of Fish and Wildlife will spend months studying this issue before making a recommendation to the commission. As they do, they should remember that not only are mountain lions a majestic reminder of a time when wildlife roamed abundantly, but, as “apex predators,” they are also key players in the ecosystem, helping support healthy habitats for aquatic and land animals.

The state must take seriously the precarious status of mountain lions. Preserving their habitat not only helps ensure their survival but also helps ensure the preservation of wild, open space for all of us.

Mientras tantus, inadahen dispetsiù gi enteru operasion go-bietnu propiu na pinetsige para ta asegura na nahuñ fundota para setbision hinemu` yan edukasion. Pot tiempun ha`ilas mina` presisu fitme na sensian inadahe gi todú gastu.

■■■

Esperansa: Puede homlu` kinalamten i dikiki` na industrian bisisa guine para u kontinua umasiste hinanau otru siha bisnis. Estague` uttimu na pisu `nai man-e` esuette hit kontribusion fondu para nesessidatta siha.

Huñgan, gaige bisnis setbisiu, ayudun fangualu`an yan peska `nai mau`udai ekonomiata. Para mona mauleg u guaha fitme na planu taimanu `nai siña mas ma-adelanta i dos patte gi ekonomia—gualu` yan peska—pot satbasionta.

Ti hu komprende haf` na kulan mayotte gi un` banda este na industria. Kau pot gaige pattisipasion tautau tanu`? Guaha minapot mana fitme mas relasion natibu yan otru gi bisnis bisita guine? Manlistu hit umadelanta pinetsige para benefisiun todus.

Tinilaika: Deste tiempun Espanol gaige Chamoru ha aksepta disposision siha layeye pot satbasion niha. Guaha tinilaika gi 1972 `nai manmna`e hit appottunitat gi inestablesen para ta gobietnan maisa hit.

Mauleg sa` gi uttimu besis hita humala halum i toru para ta onse. Dispues `nai ta disidi para manu hit—i lanchu `sino haye na atuñgu` gi chagu`. I punto: hita dumisidi para manu hit gi todur kareran pot adelantun natibu.

Mañgge`: Guaha fumaisenyu` kau maput mañgge`. Huñgan! Rason? Deste asuntu, palabra, sentensia yan eskaleran liñguahita debi u suanu yan amtau para u libianu makomprende. Todu mandaña` este na obligasion.

Trump’s Tank Day bored even his GOP courtiers

Tanks might strike you as fierce and cool, or as nothing more than fetish objects for right-wing tweens and goggle-eyed “Armored Warfare” addicts. Either way, all Americans should agree: Tanks are singularly weird machinery for a Fourth of July pageant.

Muskets, gazebos, little Shriner cars, sure. But when it comes to Yankee Doodling around, brute machines of war are a downer — long considered too ugly, utilitarian, authoritarian and lethal for even our most jingoistic national holidays.

Well, not anymore. President Donald Trump, ever the psycho, rolled tanks into Washington on Independence Day, surely the first head of state to occupy his own capital to demonstrate its independence.

The parade and the run-up to Trump’s late-afternoon speech were ominous. Along Constitution Avenue, people wore Trump-cult garb and slagged-off private citizen Hillary Clinton, who is not running for office. Elsewhere, vocal devotees of the QAnon nonsense were expecting no less than the resurrection of John F. Kennedy Jr. At least one wore a T-shirt picturing that particular dead Kennedy in a MAGA hat.

You read that right. Hear that rumbling? It’s all 400,000 people interred at Arlington Cemetery rolling over in their graves.

As the public park close to the Lincoln Memorial filled with a vetted audience divided into castes by fences, the atmosphere recalled Trump’s sinister inauguration in 2017. Was menacing Stephen Miller “carnage” rhetoric on deck?

Or maybe Trump’s sniffing would start and, hoo boy, his geezer impairments would flare up again. Maybe we’d get a rollicking military history of the Bowling Green massacres (with a nod to Kellyanne Conway) or the Battle of Covfefe Creek.

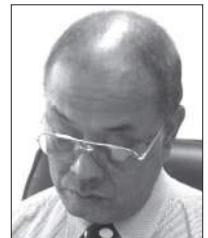
Not this time. In the end, Trump gave one of his stilted norm core speeches, filled with plodding doggerel of American self-congratulation that sounded like Newt Gingrich blather — or maybe like an outtake from History Channel Kids. The speech managed to prove that, yes, Trump can read most words. It also suggested that the weak praise he routinely gets — “at least he’s not boring” — is unwarranted.

Most TV channels refused to carry Trump Tank Day, wary of giving airtime to what many feared would be a campaign infomercial. But the speech was all bore, no bile. There also seemed to be a tight quota for redhats inside the fences. The whole affair was curiously muffled. The effect was heightened because the president spoke to the people from behind foggy rain-streaked bulletproof glass.

More armor, then. Only one hulking Bradley fighting vehicle, an eyesore in camo colors, could easily be seen during the televised speech, awkwardly grrr-ing in front of the stage. Reports had

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

‘An lotgun ya ti komprendiyun pues hagu ni mamañgge` `nai gaige i problema. Na`e dididi` preparasion para u felis gi ma-otganisan materiat yan otru siha puntu para u komprendiyun tinige`mu. Sumen impottante lokue` na un` tuñgu` haye un` tugig`e.

Dispues, usun liñguahita presisu esplikasion palabira yan konseptu gi ti maput na eskalera kosake komprendiyun haf` matuge`. Gai atburotu lau unu `nai siña umeyag hau estake lagse` puntan lapesmu i para un` fañgge`!

Liñguahé: Gi dineskuten kuttura tat mas ya monana ke liñguahita. Estague` na sahyan kumatga yan numa`e dignu haf` tinatten natibu. Lastima i diniskute `nai ta letke dichu asuntu: liñguahé!

Komprendiyun yangin un` kuestiona haf` na liñguahé iya monana gi kuttura.

Na ti liñguahimu satbasionmu? Mauleg in` hahassu i asuntu gi karerata `nai sessu siempre tatotpe dinimandan modetnu na modun linala`. Kuttura i liñguahé. Liñguahé i kuttura! Maila` ta chule` tatte dignun natibu ni mau`udai enteru gi liñguahita!

By VIRGINIA HEFFERNAN

Los Angeles Times



it that another Bradley and two olive-drab Abrams tanks had also been laboriously dragged in, but stealthy crustaceans that they are, they were either too low or too evasive for TV cameras to pick up. (Lesson: Tanks are bad in shows because ... they don’t show.)

Trump was on defense. He was in hiding — behind the gates, chain-link, vast security detail, bulletproof glass and tanks. If you want to preen, you get soldiers in elegant formation or a corny military band. If you want to hide, you get tanks. The show of force seemed more like protection for the president than pageantry for the republic.

Even Trump’s encomiums to the regular-people heroes shipped in for the occasion were sterile. But when did Trump ever seek to inspire when he could strike an Il Duce pose or two, surround himself with sycophants, and hide his cowardice behind a cartoon display of flag-molesting and bellicosity?

This surreal Independence Day brought to mind the confession of Trump’s butler, Anthony Senecal, who said he once was required to hire a bugler to goose the then-not-president’s ego by playing “Hail to the Chief” when the boss came home in a sulk.

This time, it’s likely our taxes will pay the ego-goosing that came largely from GOP courtiers handpicked by the Republican National Committee to applaud Emperor Trump’s new clothes from first-class seats near the podium. The American Way, evidently. The crowd looked wet and listless a good deal of the time. Almost no one appeared to know the words to “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

Having for weeks called for Trump’s impeachment, Michigan Rep. Justin Amash dominated the morning political media by declaring independence from Trump’s party. (Out West, an earthquake stole the day’s thunder.) You’d think Trump on his big day would bask in the hokum and let Amash go without a word. But, naturally, he tweeted snippily: “Total loser.”

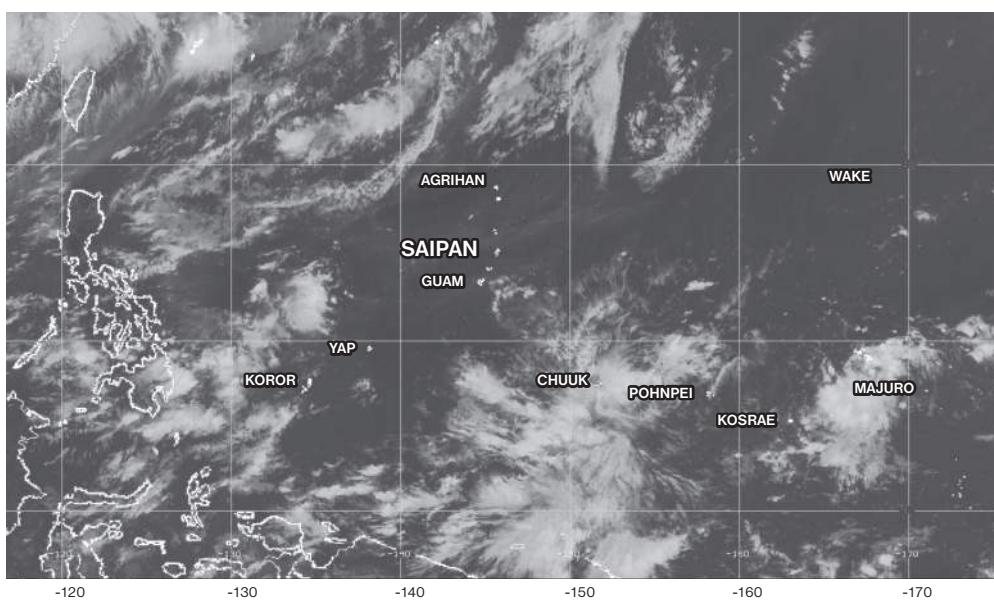
It was seemingly one of the president’s stock why-I-oughta efforts to warn others in his circle against betraying him. But it’s all tired now: Trump came off as petrified. He was, as usual, firing blindly, cornered, a little hysterical and surrounded by tanks, as if he were America’s enemy instead of its president.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
90°	79°	89°	79°	79°
90°	79°	89°	90°	79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:58 AM, TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough in the vicinity of the Marianas brings a slight chance of thunderstorms to the region today and tonight. The limiting factor for thunderstorms will be the lack of good deep layer moisture, though models do indicate a slight increase for today. A few showers are evident on radar and satellite to the east and are approaching the islands. Cloud cover is expected to increase this afternoon along with the surface heating. Otherwise, a fairly dry pattern will continue through the end of the week. The next chance at a wetting rain is still Friday as the remnants of the monsoon trough move closer to Guam. Latest GFS indicates the activity could start as early as Thursday. Will monitor this before making any changes.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
1:55 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.18
8:44 AM	LOW TIDE	1.64
2:20 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.64
8:12 PM	LOW TIDE	0.82

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:22 AM	12:57 PM
Thursday	-	1:05 AM	1:52 PM
Friday	-	1:49 AM	2:46 PM
Saturday	-	2:34 AM	3:41 PM
Sunday	-	3:22 AM	4:36 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 5, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	4:00am	7:00am	3	7C3452	10:00pm	3:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	10:05pm	3:05am+1	4
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 5	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:20pm	0:30am+1	3, 7
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3

 COMMUNITY BRIEFS

STEEP showcase event on July 12

The Guam Community College's Sustainable Technologies and Environmental Education Program (STEEP) will be conducting a showcase event of student projects on Friday, July 12, 2019 from 9am to 1pm at the GCC Learning Resource Center (LRC).

Students enrolled in STEEP have engaged in highly interactive, technical and hands-on activities that revolve around the topics of sustainability, technology and art. Some of the projects students have worked on include building robots, drones, wind turbines, photovoltaic systems, bridges and they even designed and built a solar pergola. Students are between the ages of 13-17 years old. (PR)

Please help us celebrate these student's success by stopping by and showing your support. (PR)

Guam back-to-school immunization outreach on July 27

The Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services announces that there will be a Back-to-School Immunization Clinic on Saturday, July 27, 2019 from 10am to 12pm, or while supplies last, at the Micronesia Mall (center court). The line formation will begin at Entrance #2 next to Denny's and will continue towards Entrance #1 next to Macy's Women.

The clinic is for children 4-18 years of age, and limited to those with Medicaid, MIP, or no insurance. All necessary immunizations will be given. Parents must bring their child's most current shot record. All children below 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or an adult with written authorization and photo ID.

This meeting is open to the public. The presentation includes a lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (PR)

BMV will be closed 3:30pm on July 11

Tomorrow, July 11, 2019 the Bureau of Motor Vehicle will be closed from 3:30pm through 4:30pm for a staff briefing relating to immigration and the Real I.D. Act amendment.

The Bureau of Motor Vehicle will re-open the following day Friday, July 12, 2019 to resume normal department operations. (PR)

Two from USCIS to offer workshops

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Western Regional Community Relations lead Jennifer Lane and Honolulu Community Relations officer Kamana Mathur will present two workshops at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library today, July 10, from 3:30pm to 5pm.

The two will give an immigration overview and discuss how to become a U.S. citizen. The public is welcome to join these free presentations. For more information or to RSVP, call (670) 235-7322. (PR)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting tomorrow

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting tomorrow, July 11, 2019, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker is Dr. Peter B. Brett, who is an oncologist at the Commonwealth Health Center. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. (PR)

USCIS reps at July SHRM meeting

The membership meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter tomorrow, July 11, 2019, will feature U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services representatives who will talk about the E-Verify program and form I-9. The meeting will take place at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom beginning at 11am.

Rea Bisa, USCIS management and program analyst, Kamana Mathur, USCIS community relations officer, and Jennifer Lane, regional community relations lead, will do a 30-minute presentation followed by a 30-minute question-and-answer session.

This meeting is open to the public. The presentation includes a lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (PR)

CHamoru commission meetings

The Kumisón i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'ná'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its monthly meetings on July 11 and 25, 2019, 12:30pm to 3pm at the Kumision office, The Garden House, Plasa de Espana, Hagatna.

A work session will be held on Thursday, July 18, 2019, from 12:30pm to 3pm, at the same venue to discuss the GDOE CHamoru Language Teachers CHamoru Language Orthography.

For further information call commission chair Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. (PR)


**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works**

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950


PUBLIC NOTICE

The Honorable Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Honorable Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Department of Public Works (DPW) would like to notify the general public of the 4-Year Federal-Aid Highway Program Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) and the projects under the Commonwealth Office of Transportation Authority (COTA).

A copy of the plan can be obtained at DPW Technical Services Division Highway Branch for review and comments. Written comments must be submitted directly to DPW TSD Highway Branch, 2nd. Floor Joeten Commercial Bldg., Beach Road (above First Hawaiian Branch) or via email to: lms.dpwtsd@gmail.com no later than July 24, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

Should you have any questions regarding DPW TTIP, you may contact Ms. Lorraine M. Seman, Highway Administrator or Mr. Kenn Aldan, Federal Program Coordinator at the Department of Public Works TSD Highway Branch at 234-9828 or 234-9838. Questions or comments for COTA, please contact Ms. Alfreda Camacho or Mr. Diego Songsong at 664-2690.

The following are listed in the TTIP:

**I. CNMI DEPARTMENT OF Public Works Technical Services Division HIGHWAY BRANCH 4-YEAR Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan:
PROJECTS FUNDED BY: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)"**

DISTRICT	VILLAGE	ROUTE NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF WORK	FY2020 FEDERAL	FY2021 FEDERAL	FY2022 FEDERAL	FY2023 FEDERAL
ALL	ALL	FY	Highway Planning, Technology Transfer & Training Activities Program-	Admin	\$ 1,326,986.00	\$ 1,326,986.00	\$ 1,326,986.00	\$ 1,326,986.00
ALL	ALL	OJTSS	On The Job Training Support Services	Admin	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00
ALL	ALL	NSTI	National Summer Transportation Institute	Admin	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
I	Songsong	10	Route 10 Drainage upgrade from Pinatang Park to CUC Power Plant - Phase II	PE-Design				
				Construction				\$ 1,500,000.00
I	Sinapalo	11	"Route 11 - Sabana Road Improvement, Phase II"	Construction				\$ 1,750,000.00
I	Dugi	103	Route 103 - Roadway Improvements	PE Design				\$ 300,000.00
II	San Jose	205	Route 205 - Road Improvement	PE Design				\$ 100,000.00
II	Tachungnya	206	Route 206 - Road Improvement	PE Design				\$ 1,000,000.00
				Construction				\$ 775,000.00
III	Chalan Laulau - Garapan	30	Route 30 - Chalan Pale Arnold Hazard Elimination	PE				
				ROW				
				Construction				\$ 1,000,000.00
				CM				
III	As Perido	32	As Perido Road Safety Improvements	PE Design	\$ 50,000.00			
				Construction				
				CM-DPW				
III	Oleai-Christo Rai	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 3 (JP Center to Oleai)	PE Design				
				Construction	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00		
				CM	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00		
III	Christo Rai - Micro Beach	33	Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project, Phase 4 (Bank of Guam to Horiguchi Bldg.) CM/Section 106	PE Design				
				Construction				\$ 1,500,000.00
				CM				\$ 300,000.00
III	Dandan	35	Route 35 - Airport Road Improvement	PE Design				
				Construction	\$ 1,500,000.00			
				CM-DPW				
III	Obyan	302	Naftan Road Improvements	Env. Update	\$ 20,000.00			
				Construction	\$ 3,000,000.00			
				CM	\$ 300,000.00			
III	Capitol Hill	310	Route 310 Tapochao Road and drainage Improvements	PE Design	\$ 500,000.00			
				Construction				\$ 1,000,000.00
				CM				\$ 150,000.00
III	Gualo Rai	317	Route 317 - Gualo Rai Road and Drainage Improvements	PE Design				
				Construction				\$ 1,500,000.00
				CM-DPW				
TOTAL OBLIGATION					► \$ 8,404,486.00	\$ 9,134,486.00	\$ 5,309,486.00	\$ 3,884,486.00
Estimated Carry Over Prior Fiscal Year TOTAL:					\$ 603,225.00	\$ 6,409,210.88	\$ 1,318,024.88	\$ 51,838.88
FMIS Unobligated Funds (Closed-Out Projects/De-obligated Funds)					\$ 10,167,171.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OJTSS/NSTI					\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 57,500.00
Annual Allocation:					\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00	\$ 3,985,800.00
TOTAL ALLOCATION (not including Other Funds)					\$ 14,813,696.88	\$ 10,452,510.88	\$ 5,361,324.88	\$ 4,095,138.88
TOTAL OBLIGATION (not including other funds)					► \$ 8,404,486.00	\$ 9,134,486.00	\$ 5,309,486.00	\$ 3,884,486.00
FISCAL ALLOCATION TO HQ (Not including Other Funds)					\$ 6,409,210.88	\$ 1,318,024.88	\$ 51,838.88	\$ 210,652.88
TOTAL ALLOCATION - other (ER, Special Funds, etc.)								

Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) FY2020-2023

Projects Funded by: U.S. Department of Transportation

DISTRICT	FIXED	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF WORK	FY2020 FEDERAL	FY2021 FEDERAL	FY2022 FEDERAL	FY2023 FEDERAL
SAIPAN	ALL	Purchase of Twelve (12) Medium Duty ADA Compliant Mobility Equipped Transit Bus for the Fixed Route		\$2,162,292.00			
SAIPAN	ALL	Supply, Installation of Thirty Seven (37) Fixed Route Bus Stop Shelters	Construction		\$1,009,500.00		
SAIPAN	4	Supply, Installation of Bus Stop Signboard and Construction of COTA Transit (Bus) Pads		\$30,000.00			
SAIPAN	ALL	A/E Design for Fixed Route Bus Stops	PE Design	\$300,000.00			
			Construction				
			CM				
SAIPAN		Supply of Maintenance Equipment & Tools for the COTA Maintenance Facility		\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
SAIPAN	ALL	Construction of Bus Transfer Stations at the Northern Marianas College, Paseo De Marianas & Kagman	PE Design		\$150,000.00		
			Construction			\$680,	

4th Annual Japanese Memorial Blessing

PHOTOS By MARC A. VENUS



The group of Shinto priests pose for a picture during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios delivers his remarks during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



Consul for the Consular Office in Japan Ono Kazuhiko performs the incense ritual, as other participants await their turn during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



A Shinto priest blesses the Buddhist monks during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



Consul for the Consular Office in Japan Ono Kazuhiko delivers his remarks during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



The group of Shinto priests perform their final blessing as one priest plays the Sho during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



A Buddhist monk teaches Bishop Ryan Jimenez the incense ritual during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.



A Shinto priest reads out a prayer during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.

The trio of Buddhist monks prepare the incenses during last Saturday's Memorial Blessing at the Aqua Resort Club's parking area.

MVA holds 1st road shows in Wuhan, Changsha,

The Marianas Visitors Authority recently held its first road shows in two central China cities, Wuhan and Changsha.

The road shows, held on June 18 and 20, 2019, respectively, were an opportunity for the MVA and its tourism partners to promote the destination and conduct B2B meetings with travel agents, media, and other industry representatives.

"Being two important hubs of rail transportation and com-

munications in the central area of China, with a large population and fast-growing economic development, we see more and more Chinese visitors from Wuhan and Changsha have been visiting the Marianas via charter flights," said MVA deputy managing director Judy C. Torres, who led the MVA delegation at the event. "We believe these cities have great potential, and we would like to explore further in this region."

The MVA was joined by several travel industry partners who also shared about their tourism resources: Brighten International Travel, Centours, Top Development Inc, Asiana Airlines, Incheon Airport, Saipan Skydive, and Impression Tour. Additional promotional materials and prizes for the road show were provided by Aqua Resort Club, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Grandvrio Resort Saipan. (MVA)



The Marianas Visitors Authority and its tourism partners share information on The Marianas with travel industry representatives and other attendees of the Marianas Road Show on June 20, 2019, in Changsha, China.



MVA

Approximately 100 travel trade representatives, media, and other individuals attend the Marianas Road Show on June 20, 2019, in Changsha, China, to learn more about The Marianas from the Marianas Visitors Authority and its travel industry partners.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4282 Fax (670) 235-5131



WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2018 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2018 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Saipan, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/SAIPAN2018.pdf>

For Tinian, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/TINIAN2018.pdf>

For Rota, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/ROTA2018.pdf>

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

RA AYOORA REPOODIL AMMWELIL SCHAAL

Repodil yóómw 2018 CUC Ammwelil Schaal aa yoor online! Ráagh yeel, ai ayoora repoodngáli faluw kka: Seipé, Tchiliyól, me Luuta. E lo llol repood kkal arongorong ikka e impotanti reel milikka e toowow me ammwelil schaal iye ów ghal úlumi.

Emmwel ubwe suughi website ikka e amwirimwiritiw ubwe amwuri meta kka e nngaw iye e lo llol yóómw schaal llol ráaghil 2018 me ubwe metaff reel schaal iye ughal úlumi.

Ngáli Seipé, mweteló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/SAIPAN2018.pdf>

Ngáli Tchiliyól, mweteló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/TINIAN2018.pdf>

Ngáli Luuta, mweteló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/ROTA2018.pdf>

Ngáre u mwuschel rebwe seleti repood yeel, ngáre u tipáli ubwe kkapas ngáli escháy reel repood yeel, ngáre u mwuschel pappid yeel ngáre rebwe email-li ló ngálugh, faingi ló CUC me (670) 664-4282.

RIPOT KUÅLIDÅT HÅNOM ESTA MANAGUAHA

Iyon-mu 2018 na Ripot nu i Kuålidåt Hånom i CUC managuahayi på'gu giya on-line! På'gu na såkkan, in na'guahayi siparåo na ripot para kada' isla: Saipan, Tinian, yan Luta. Esti na ripot siha masaguaniniyi impottânti na infotmasion put i tutuhonña yan kuålidåt put i Hånom ni un gigimin.

Put fabot baba i tinatti na web sites para un atan håfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda' gi hålum i hånom-mu gi duråntin 2018 na såkkan para un ke'tungu' mås put i hånom ni un gigimin.

Para Saipan, hånao para <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/SAIPAN2018.pdf>

Para Tinian, hånao para <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/TINIAN2018.pdf>

Para Luta, hånao para <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/ROTA2018.pdf>

Kumu un nisisita i ripot para u matranslåda, ya malagu' hår kumuentusi hårí put i ripot pat malagu' hår kopian påppit u ma'entrega pat ma-email guatu para hår, put fabot hårigan i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-19-013, Rev.1

AGINGAN PRIMARY SCREEN PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified vendors for the attainment of a Primary Screen for the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant at CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-work will be emailed to all registered prospective proposers email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-19-013, Rev.1 Agingan Primary Screen Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **July 19, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Proponents shall comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 2, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator at email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, P.E., Senior Engineer for Water/Wastewater at email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Technician, Senior at email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Business

LOCO & TACO

The first and only Mexican restaurant on Saipan

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrera@saipan.com
CORRESPONDENT

Loco & Taco located in Garapan across Paseo de Marianas is the first and only Mexican restaurant on island to date. In 2012, businessman Sungnam Lee opened Loco & Taco because he wanted to share the love and hospitality that he experienced when he spent time in Mexico City.

Lee grew up in Japan and after graduating from college in 2002, Lee went to the United States specifically Texas to study English for one year. While there, he made friends with other students from diverse backgrounds—Mexico, Chile, and South America. “There is something about their food that is very attractive... this made my curiosity about Mexican food grow big,” Lee said.

“In the beginning, I wasn’t really interested in Mexican food—I just love to eat. My friends exposed me to different spices and flavors. Since then, I visit the hometown of my friends just learning about their food, culture and way of life,” he added.

Lee said that when he came to Saipan in 2005, he started working as a general manager in a hotel on Capital Hill but that did not make him forget his fondness of Mexican cuisine. “After working in the hotel business, I decided to put up my own business starting with Nan Chang where we served American, Japanese, and a little bit of Mexican food.”

“Then in 2012, we changed Nan Chang to what Loco & Taco is today and concentrate on a Mexican-themed restaurant,” he added.

To hone his craft even more, Lee decided to go to Mexico a



BEA CABRERA

The vibrant colors and decor of Loco & Taco automatically exudes a Mexican vibe.



BEA CABRERA

“Mexican food is not just about flavor because it is about the process,” said Loco & Taco general manager Sungnam Lee.



BEA CABRERA

Hand-made blue corn tortilla is served fresh and warm at Loco & Taco.

couple of years ago and paid a restaurant daily to learn to cook true authentic Mexican food and bring it to Saipan. “I was there, a paying culinary student but what I got from the experience was to wash dishes and cut tomatoes. I realized that I am not going to learn from the restaurants,” he said.

“I found myself going to homes and families in their farms where I stayed for months to observe how homemade Mexican food is made. I don’t speak Spanish and luckily, they adjusted. They taught me how to make hand-made ‘blue corn tortilla’ which we

serve at our restaurant as they are traditionally used to make tacos because they are a healthier option and a bit more durable,” he added.

Lee got a big surprise when he learned that Mexican food is not just about spices or secret ingredients. “I was looking for flavor but I realized that I was looking at the wrong direction. The flavor in Mexican dishes is just a product of a long and careful process. The process includes ‘love’ and this produces patience because Mexican food takes time,” he said

“For example, our carnitas

take three to five days to prepare. We do not use water—what I learned from the families in Mexico is that they use fresh pineapple juice, cinnamon, and lemon and that is what I do here using local fruits. Finally, I cook the meat in slow fire that is why it takes days to get the final product,” he added.

Lee fondly recalls that Mexicans have a belief that cooking is also spiritual. “They say that an ‘angel’ does some part in the cooking. Since we did our best in putting all the ingredients together, didn’t eat or touch the meat and put over very slow fire for three to five days, the angel comes to the process and seen in the steam coming out of the dish. I find that very beautiful and poetic,” he said.

“This is the same process we also do at Loco & Taco. The meat and tortilla in our ‘beef colorado’ takes a lot of time to prepare we have to use six kinds of chilis. The process may be long but it is worth it and our customers are guaranteed fresh and well-cooked ingredients every time,” he added.

By word of mouth, Loco & Taco is fast becoming known

also for their \$1 tacos every day. “This idea came from friends and people that helped me after Super Typhoon Yutu. We were closed in October up until April because of the damage the restaurant incurred and during that time, regular customers and even strangers never stopped sending help to me—they brought water and noodles to the shop to make sure we are alright,” he said.

“I don’t have any connection with some of those people but it only means that they love our food and so our offering of \$1 tacos every day is

my way of giving back to the people and the entire community for helping us and believing in us. Monday to Friday from 5pm to 7pm, we serve \$1 carnitas tacos and from Saturday to Sunday 5pm-7pm, we serve \$1 fish tacos,” he added.

Lee said that when he arrived on Saipan in 2005, he found out that the people here have a different kind of energy.” I was born in Korea but grew up in Japan and to me, that means something... that there is more to life than being financially stable—the people of Saipan taught me to prioritize happiness. In the same manner, Mexican people taught me love and care in feeding their families... both very humbling realizations.”

“These are the traits that I want Loco & Taco to give to people. That when they come and dine with us, they come home happy and enjoyed their food with friends and family,” he added.

Loco & Taco is open for lunch from 11am to 2pm and dinner from 5pm to 10pm Monday to Sunday. For more information, call (670)233-5233.

Saudi carrier cancels troubled Boeing 737 order for Airbus

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Boeing’s campaign to restore the reputation of its best-selling plane after two deadly crashes suffered a blow with a Saudi airline canceling an order worth up to \$5.9 billion in favor of a European rival of the U.S. manufacturer.

Flyadeal, the budget airline arm of Saudi Arabian Airlines Corp., ordered 30 A320neo jets from Airbus and took options on 20 more, meaning that its entire fleet will consist of planes from that company.

It’s a potentially troubling sign for Boeing, which has not seen customers divert orders to Airbus en masse.

A small number of airlines have threatened to cancel 737 Max orders since crashes off the coast of Indonesia and in Ethiopia killed 346 people. The Max has been grounded since March.

Officials with Indonesia’s Garuda said in March that they were canceling the remaining 49 of a 50-jet Max order. Published reports suggest the airline and Boeing are in talks, however, and Boeing still lists the last 49 Garuda orders on its website.

Similarly, the owner of Lion Air—the Indonesia airline whose Max jet was involved in the first fatal crash in October—vowed to cancel. Boeing still lists the airline’s 187 unfilled orders as active.

Middle Eastern carriers Flydubai and Oman Air have threatened to switch to Airbus.

Flyadeal did not mention Boeing in its weekend announcement and did not disclose financial terms of the Airbus order, although the list price of the planes is about \$5.5 billion. Carriers rarely pay list prices.

Bible shortage? Publishers say tariffs could cause it

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Religious publishers say President Donald Trump’s most recent proposed tariffs on Chinese imports could result in a Bible shortage.

That’s because millions of Bibles—some estimates put it at 150 million or more—are printed in China each year. Critics of a proposed tariff say

it would make the Bible more expensive for consumers and hurt the evangelism efforts of Christian organizations that give away Bibles as part of their ministry.

HarperCollins Christian Publishing President and CEO Mark Schoenwald recently told the U.S. Trade Representative that the company believes the

Trump administration “never intended to impose a ‘Bible Tax’ on consumers and religious organizations,” according to a transcript of his remarks provided by the publisher.

The two largest Bible publishers in the United States, Zondervan and Thomas Nelson, are owned by HarperCollins, and they incur close to

75% of their Bible manufacturing expenses in China, Schoenwald said. Together, they command 38% of the American Bible market, he said.

The full size of that market is difficult to gauge. A spokeswoman at HarperCollins said they believe around 20 million Bibles are sold in the U.S. each year.



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
26,806.14	2,975.95	8,098.38
-115.98	-14.46	-63.41
0.43%	0.48%	0.78%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms	Australian Dollar	1.4364	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8099	Russian Ruble	63.5022
	British Pound	0.7987	Indian Rupee	68.1045	Singapore Dollar	1.3604
	Canadian Dollar	1.3102	Japanese Yen	108.7370	South Korean Won	1159.38
	Chinese Yuan	6.7599	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0969	Swiss Franc	0.9938
	Euro	0.8913	New Zealand Dollar	1.5084	Taiwan Dollar	30.6445
					Thailand Baht	30.7775

Nation

Barr sees a legal way to ask about citizenship on census

EDGEFIELD, S.C. (AP)—Attorney General William Barr said Monday he sees a way to legally require 2020 census respondents to declare whether or not they are citizens, despite a Supreme Court ruling that forbade asking the question.



In an interview with The Associated Press, Barr said the Trump administration will take action in the coming days that he believes will allow the government to add the controversial census query. Barr would not detail the plans, though a senior official said President Donald Trump is expected to issue a memorandum to the Commerce Department instructing it to include the question on census forms.

The Supreme Court recently blocked the question, at least temporarily, saying the admin-

istration's justification "seems to have been contrived." That was a blow to Trump, who has been pressing for the government to demand information about citizenship.

The U.S. Census Bureau's experts have said requiring such information would discourage immigrants from participating in the survey and result in a less accurate count. That in turn would redistribute money and political power away from Democratic-led cities where immigrants tend to cluster to whiter, rural areas where Republicans do well.

Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Monday that Trump wants to add the demand for citizenship information because he wants to "make America white again."

Meanwhile, the Justice De-

partment is replacing the legal team that has been pursuing Trump's efforts, putting in place a new team consisting of both career and politically appointed attorneys.

The new team, named in court papers, includes Deputy Assistant Attorney General David Morrell, a former Trump White House lawyer and law clerk to Justice Clarence Thomas; Christopher Bates, who previously worked for Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, and four career Justice Department attorneys, Glenn Girdharry, Colin Kisor, Christopher Reimer and Daniel Schiffer.

James Burnham, a top lawyer in the department's civil division who had been leading the team, had told Barr that a number of people who had been litigating the case preferred "not to continue during this new phase," the attorney general said.

Big earthquakes raise interest in West Coast warning system

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The powerful Mojave Desert earthquakes that rocked California ended a years-long lull in major seismic activity and raised new interest in an early warning system being developed for the West Coast.

The ShakeAlert system is substantially built in California and overall is about 55% complete, with much of the remaining installation of seismic sensor stations to be done in the Pacific Northwest, said Robert de Groot of the U.S. Geological Survey.

Areas that have the appropriate number of sensors include Southern California, San Francisco Bay Area and the Seattle-Tacoma region, de Groot said.

The system does not predict earthquakes. Rather, it detects that an earthquake is occurring, rapidly calculates expected intensity levels and sends out alerts that may give warnings ranging from several seconds to perhaps a minute before potentially damaging shaking hits locations away from the epicenter.

Depending on the distance, that could be enough time to automatically slow trains, stop industrial machines, start generators, pull a surgical knife away from a patient or tell students to put the "drop, cover and hold" drill into action.

For alerts to be useful, delivery has to be timely, and that's a problem with current cellphone technology. For

cellphone delivery, the USGS ultimately intends to use the same system that delivers Amber Alerts, sending signals to everyone in reach of cellphone towers in defined areas where damaging shaking is expected.

Pilot programs involving select users have been underway for several years. In October, the USGS announced the system was ready to be used broadly by businesses, utilities, schools and other entities following a software update that reduced problems such as false alerts typically caused by a big quake somewhere in the world being misidentified as a local quake.

Currently, the only mass public notification is possible through a mobile app developed for the city of Los Angeles and functional only within Los Angeles County.

The ShakeAlertLA app did not send alerts for last week's two big quakes, but officials said it functioned as designed because the expected level of shaking in the LA area—more than 100 miles from the epicenters—was below a trigger threshold.

Thresholds for alerting are important because California has daily earthquakes.

"Imagine getting 10 ShakeAlerts on your phone for really small earthquakes that may not affect you," de Groot said. "If people get saturated with these messages it's going to make people not care as much."

In the Mojave Desert on Monday, rattled residents cleaned up and officials assessed damage in the aftermath of Thursday's magnitude 6.4 earthquake and Friday's magnitude 7.1 quake centered near Ridgecrest.

It could be several more days before water service is restored to the small town of Trona, where officials trucked in portable toilets and showers, said San Bernardino County spokesman David Wert.

Ten residences in Trona were red-tagged as uninhabitable and officials expect that number to increase as inspectors complete surveys. Wert said he's seen homes that shifted 6 feet (nearly 2 meters) off their foundations.

Electricity was restored to Trona over the weekend, allowing people to use much-needed air conditioners as daytime temperatures approached 100 degrees (38 Celsius).

Teams will need several more days to finish assessments in nearby Ridgecrest, where the number of damaged buildings will likely be in the dozens, Kern County spokeswoman Megan Person said.

Person says officials are bringing in counselors to help residents still on edge as aftershocks rattle the area.

"You can't feel every single one, but you can feel a lot of them," she said. "Those poor people have been dealing with shaking ground non-stop since Thursday."

World

UN rights chief 'appalled' by conditions in US for migrants

GENEVA (AP)—The United Nations' human rights chief said Monday she was "appalled" by the conditions migrants and refugees face in U.S. detention facilities, intensifying a challenge to the Trump administration's immigration policies.

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said children stopped by border agents should never be held in immigration detention facilities or separated from their families, and detention should not be the norm for adults, either.

"Any deprivation of liberty of adult migrants and refugees should be a measure of last resort," the U.N. commissioner said, appealing for "non-custodial alternatives."

A spokeswoman for the U.N. human rights office, Ravina Shamdasani, said Bachelet decided to speak out more forcefully than before after the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's inspector general issued a report last week warning of dangerous conditions in U.S. immigration detention facilities.

Many migrants and refugees set off on "perilous journeys with their children in search of protection and dignity and away from violence and hunger," Bachelet said in a statement.

"When they finally believe they have arrived in safety, they may find themselves separated from their loved ones and locked in undignified conditions," she continued. "This should never happen anywhere."

The Homeland Security report was the second by the inspector general's office to blast conditions at temporary detention centers in Texas where migrants are held.

The first, based on visits to Border Patrol facilities in western Texas in May, showed dozens of migrants packed into spaces so tight that some had to stand on toilets. It detailed how 900 migrants were in a 125-person facility at one point, with many held for



U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Chilean Michelle Bachelet, talk about the situation of human rights in Venezuela, during the 41th session of the Human Rights Council, at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Friday, July 05, 2019.

weeks in violation of the government's policy.

Last week's report, released July 2, said several Border Patrol facilities in south Texas were dangerously overcrowded. Detainees banged on cell windows, shouted and pressed notes to a window for inspectors, according to the report released July 2. A photo showed a man holding a piece of cardboard with one word: "help."

Inspectors also warned that many children had no access to showers and were being detained long past the maximum of 72 hours. Five children have died in Border Patrol custody since December.

"As a pediatrician, but also as a mother and a former head of state, I am deeply shocked that children are forced to sleep on the floor in overcrowded facilities, without access to adequate health care or food, and with poor sanitation conditions," Bachelet, a former president of Chile, said Monday.

Rights group calls Duterte's drug war crime against humanity

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Amnesty International urgently called for international pressure and an immediate U.N. investigation to help end what it says are possible crimes against humanity in the Philippine president's bloody anti-drug crackdown.

The London-based rights watchdog said in a study released Monday that extrajudicial killings in President Rodrigo Duterte's 3-year-old campaign remain rampant and the scale of abuses has reached "the threshold of crimes against humanity."

About 6,600 people, most of them accused of petty drug crimes, have been killed in the crackdown Duterte launched as his centerpiece project when he took office in mid-2016. But nongovernment groups claim a much higher death toll, including many suspects killed by motorcycle-riding gunmen human rights groups suspect were financed by police officers.

Duterte and the police have denied any authorization of extrajudicial killings. Duterte, however, has repeatedly threatened drug

suspects with death in televised speeches and encouraged law enforcers to shoot suspects who fight back. He has warned that the crackdown will be more dangerous for suspects in the final three years of his six-year term.

Philippine National Police chief Oscar Albayalde said such claims were "allegations that have never been proven." All police actions, he said, have been done within the bounds of the law and the constitution, which guarantees the protection of human rights.

Good Housekeeping

ON GARDENING:

Carmine is not a word I grew up with describing color. By definition, it is a vivid crimson. The QIS Carmine gomphrena is a prime example. If you were partnering up a color, an intense yellow gold would be perfect, so send in a dozen or so American goldfinches to eat not only gomphrena seeds, but zinnias, too.

The spectacle has been happening several times a day, creating what many gardeners would consider a National Geographic moment. James, my color design guru son, planted three beds fairly close in the Old Town community of North Columbus, Ga. So, while you might think I have been describing a backyard habitat, it is actually street-side close to parking and shops.

The beds feature the QIS Carmine gomphrena, Uproar Rose zinnias, Superbena Stormburst verbena, and Profusion yellow zinnias. While he designed the beds, it's Mother Nature who is creating the spectacle via a feeding frenzy. Most of us are simply thrilled to see American goldfinches at feeders, much less our plants.

I can tell you that if you are mesmerized by hummingbirds coming to your salvias and cupheas, you will be in total ecstasy when birds come to pick off your mature seeds. To be honest, the flowers were so pretty and persevering we didn't realize there were any seeds ripe for the picking.

QIS gomphrena is known botanically as *Gomphrena haageana* with the common name Rio Grande globe amaranth. The species is native to Texas, New Mexico and Mexico, so it has a great tough DNA. It is offered in Carmine and three other colors from PanAmerican Seed. Imagine 24- to 30-inch-tall carmine colored blooms being adorned with one of America's most

QIS Carmine gomphrena and Uproar Rose zinnia host a spectacle of nature

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE



This male American Goldfinch has just picked off a seed from underneath the Uproar Rose blossom.

TNS



American Goldfinches are currently creating a spectacle in Columbus GA feeding on QIS Carmine gomphrena seeds.

sell a transplant of a tall zinnia it must be exceptional. The good news for you is they are easy to find online in the seed market.

Uproar Rose is a large dahlialike flower borne on 30-inch tall stems. Expect the plants to reach about 3 feet wide, so give adequate spacing when planting. These zinnias look like the quintessential cottage garden flower partnered with rudbeckias, coreopsis, Shasta daisies and of course the gomphrena mentioned in these beds. Uproar Rose zinnias also excel artistically as the thriller plant in designer mixed containers.

Gomphrenas and zinnias perform best in full sun with fertile, well-drained soil. Part-sun will still work but blooms will be more prolific in full sun. When working soil, incorporate 2 pounds of fertilizer per 100 square feet of bed space. I like to use a 12-6-6 ratio when I can easily find it, but a balanced one that contains a slow-release form of nitrogen will do just fine. Work in the fertilizer and 3 to 4 inches of organic matter, tilling 6- to 8-inches deep.

While I am touting QIS Carmine gomphrenas the midsummer report for Trifolia Pink is outstanding in performance and pollinators and the Ping Pong series is simply stunning. This gives you three choices of gomphrena species to partner with Uproar Rose or your favorite garden flowers. I can't promise a spectacle like we are experiencing in Columbus, Ga., but I can assure you summerlong color.



beautiful birds of bright gold and black. Of course, there is a caveat: American goldfinches would need to be residents in your area during this time.

Uproar Rose zinnia has now done it all. It may be as close

to perfection as an annual flower can be. It provides cut flowers, brings in butterflies, hummingbirds and as now documented the feeding of American goldfinches. You know when garden centers



The Uproar Rose zinnia in Columbus were also bringing in the American Goldfinches.



QIS Carmine gomphrena perseveres all summer, bringing in pollinators and in this case song birds too. TNS



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Margaret ANN JONES

NOVEMBER 5, 1937 - JUNE 27, 2019

Margaret Ann Jones, 81, passed away peacefully on June 27th in North Carolina surrounded by loved ones. She was born in Willow Spring, North Carolina to the late, Early and Verna Page. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Robert "Bob" Jones; daughter Julie Jones Murrell and husband Dan (Kai, Page and Lane), sons, Jeff Jones and wife Jane (Jessica, Jonah, Jasmine, Jada and Josiah), Jay Jones and wife Deane (Jake, Jenna and Jeremy). Margaret was a loving, selfless mother and a wonderful Mema to her grandchildren.

Guam will forever remember Mrs. Margaret Jones as the woman in the pink vest always working for charitable causes, a woman who was passionate about others, a devout woman of faith, and someone who leaves behind a legacy not just in her philanthropic work but in the example she set for her family, employees, organizations she was involved with and for the island community that will miss her warm smile and compassion.

Last respects will be held on Saturday, July 13th at Harvest Baptist Church in Maite from 9am to 11am. Memorial service starts at 11:30am. Private Interment Services.

*In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:
Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association P.O. Box 9687, Tamuning, Guam 96931*

"Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of our master." - Matthew 25:23



Life & Style

Man who says Spacey groped him invokes right not to testify

The man who accused Kevin Spacey of groping him at a Massachusetts resort island bar in 2016 asserted his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and refused to testify Monday after being questioned about text messages the defense claims were deleted.

The man's decision not to testify caused the judge to question the viability of the case against the two-time Oscar winner, whose career collapsed in 2017 amid a string of sexual misconduct allegations.

Spacey's accuser was ordered to take the stand after he said he lost a cellphone sought by the defense, which says the man deleted messages that support Spacey's claims of innocence and provided investigators with manipulated screenshots of conversations.

The accuser, speaking publicly for the first time, said he gave police what he had "available" to him "at the time" and did not alter any of the messages.

"I have no knowledge of any deletions of messages on my phone," the man said.

The Associated Press does not typically name people who say they are the victims of sexual assault unless they identify themselves publicly. Spacey pleaded not guilty to indecent assault and battery in January.

NEW YORK (AP)—During a live segment on a cable news network, from a sports bar in France where patrons were celebrating the United States women's World Cup Championship, a profane chant about President Donald Trump broke out.

The First Viewer was not pleased.

But the object of his ire was not CNN or MSNBC. It was his favorite outlet, Fox News Channel, and the president issued a not-so-veiled threat about the network's programming.

No president has been so closely aligned with a single news outlet as Trump is with Fox News, so his criticism carried added significance. While it was not the first time he has singled out Fox, it was the most pointed, raising the question of how the network, and the president's supporters, would respond.

Trump on Sunday night wrote that watching Fox on the weekend was worse than watching CNN and MSNBC, outlets he frequently attacks. He said Fox is "loading up



Kevin Spacey's attorney Alan Jackson, left, presents photos to witness Heather Unruh, the accuser's mother, in Nantucket District Court Monday, July 8, 2019. AP

After being pressed by Spacey's lawyer about whether he knew that altering evidence used in a prosecution is a crime, the man invoked his right against self-incrimination, and the judge said his testimony Monday would be stricken from the record.

Spacey's lawyer urged the judge to dismiss the case, calling it "completely compromised." The judge said he would not immediately dismiss the case, but acknowledged prosecu-

tors would have a tough time bringing it to trial if the man won't testify.

"Once exercised, it may be pretty hard to get around this privilege at trial," Judge Thomas Barrett said. "The matter may well be dismissed for the reasons indicated," he said.

The man's cellphone has been a key issue in the case against Spacey, who is accused of groping the then 18-year-old at a popular Nantucket bar and restaurant, where the

man worked as a busboy. The allegations were first made in 2017 by the man's mother, former Boston TV anchor Heather Unruh.

The accuser's lawyer, Mitchell Garabedian, said they cannot find the phone, but were able to retrieve a copy of its contents that had been backed up to a computer.

But Spacey's lawyer said that's not enough.

"None of that answers the central question, which is:

Where is the actual phone? That's what we want. That's what we're entitled to, and we still don't have it," Attorney Alan Jackson said.

Unruh told investigators that she deleted items concerning her son's "frat boy activities" from the phone before giving it to authorities. She acknowledged Monday deleting things that "concerned" her but denied touching text messages or anything else relevant to the case.

Spacey was not required to

Trump ramping up criticisms of Fox, usually a friendly venue

with Democrats" and criticized the network for using The New York Times as a source for a story. He also attacked Fox for hiring former Democratic National Committee head Donna Brazile as a contributor and poked at afternoon host Shepard Smith's ratings.

"Fox News is changing fast, but they forgot the people who got them there," Trump wrote.

Fox did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

While it was not clear what Trump was specifically responding to, he was particularly annoyed by Fox correspondent Greg Palkot's live report from a sports bar in France, where patrons erupted in a "F--- Trump" chant, according to two advisers not authorized to speak publicly about private discussions.

Fox also aired two segments about immigration Sunday that used as a hook a Times story that said workers at a child detention center in Texas are "grappling with the

stuff of nightmares," according to Matthew Gertz of the liberal watchdog Media Matters for America.

By some measures, Trump has never been closer to Fox News, or at least their evening hosts. He regularly calls into Sean Hannity's show, touts Laura Ingraham's program and, last month, frequently consulted Tucker Carlson, who strongly opposes military action against Iran, off-air. A few days later, Carlson was spotted among Trump's entourage during the president's visit to the demilitarized zone between North Korea and South Korea. Carlson traveled with Trump for an interview that was shown on Fox.

But the president's frustration with the network has grown in recent months. He has angrily told confidants he is confused about why Fox News sometimes "goes negative" in its coverage of his administration when it features an unflattering portrait of his White House, the advisers said.

"I think he takes 'Fox & Friends' literally, that they're supposed to be friends," said Frank Sesno, director of the School of Media and Public Affairs at George Washington University. "Fox has real

journalists who ask real questions, like Chris Wallace. If he thinks the 'no spin zone' is going to be the no criticism zone, he's right most of the time, but not all of the time."

Trump tweeted negatively about Fox this spring after it aired town halls featuring Democratic presidential candidates Bernie Sanders and Pete Buttigieg. "Fox is moving more and more to the losing (wrong) side in covering the Dems," he tweeted May 19.

He said "what's with Fox News?" on April 16 after the Sanders session, accusing the network of turning away Trump fans who wanted to attend.

In March, he suggested Fox weekend anchors Arthel Neville and Leland Vittert should be working at CNN.

"I suspect Fox executives don't get too worked up over the president's tweets and offhanded comments," said Ken LaCorte, a longtime Fox News executive who now operates his own website. News reporters and anchors at Fox,

attend Monday's hearing, and he did not appear.

The accuser's testimony came days after he voluntarily dismissed a lawsuit that he had filed against the actor about a week earlier.

There was no settlement, Unruh said Monday. The man's lawyer said the case was dropped because the accuser is on an "emotional rollercoaster" and wants to focus on the criminal matter.

"He only wanted one roller coaster ride at a time. The criminal case is enough," Garabedian said.

The man told police he went over to talk to Spacey after his shift ended at Nantucket's Club Car bar because he wanted to get a picture with the actor. He said Spacey bought him several drinks and tried to persuade him to come home with him before unzipping the man's pants and groping him for about three minutes.

The accuser told police he tried to move Spacey's hands, but the groping continued, and he didn't know what to do because he didn't want to get in trouble for drinking because he was underage. The man said he fled when Spacey went to the bathroom.

Spacey's lawyer indicated that the defense would file a written motion to dismiss the case in the coming days. The judge set another hearing for July 31. (AP)

who work in the shadow of opinion hosts, don't necessarily mind when a presidential tweet illustrates that not everyone at Fox is in the president's pocket.

Still, many of Fox's regular viewers also follow Trump on Twitter, and there's a risk when the president foments discontent. LaCorte said if the criticisms became more frequent, or if Trump cuts off the frequent access that many Fox personalities have for interviews, that would be a more worrisome sign.

Sesno, however, said the latest incident foreshadows potential trouble for Fox as the campaign heats up. Trump will obviously come under criticism; to what extent does Fox reflect that?

While there are other conservative websites and news networks, like One American News Network and News-Max, none come close to the reach and influence that Fox has with this audience.

"What other channel are you going to if you want to see pro-Trump stuff on TV?" Sesno asked.

Comedian Tracy Morgan hosts The ESPYS to help fight cancer

LOS ANGELES (AP)—For Tracy Morgan, hosting The ESPYS is personal. It's not just another gig to the comedian.

The star of TBS' "The Last O.G." will preside over Wednesday night's show honoring the past year's top athletes, performances and achievements. It airs live on ABC from Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

"The main reason I really wanted to do it is the fight against cancer," Morgan said in a recent phone interview, explaining that his grandparents and former wife, Sabina, died of the disease. "I have an opportunity to fight their cause and I'm all in."

Besides the laughs, The ESPYS raise awareness and funds for the V Foundation for Cancer Research. It's the char-

ity founded by ESPN and the late basketball coach Jim Valvano at the first show in 1993. The cable sports network has helped raise nearly \$97 million for the V Foundation in 26 years.

"We'll have a great time, but the most important thing is Jim Valvano. I'll never forget watching him at the ESPYS," Morgan said. "We forget sometimes the cause, we enjoy being there, but we got to understand the reason why we're there. It's an opportunity to give back. I'm in service to others."

Morgan said he's a big sports fan, dating to his childhood in Brooklyn. As a youngster, he remembers watching father Jimmy and uncle Alvin Morgan play football.

As a teenager, he met Mark

Freeform supports Halle Bailey's Ariel casting amid backlash

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Disney-owned cable network has taken aim at critics who disagreed with the decision to cast Halle Bailey as Ariel in the upcoming adaption of "The Little Mermaid."

Freeform posted an open letter on Sunday in support of Bailey after some on social media used the hashtag #NotMyAriel to object to a black woman portraying the red-headed mermaid princess of the animated film. But the network says "Danish mermaids can be black because Danish (asterisk) people(asterisk) can be black."

Bailey is half of the sister duo Chloe x Halle. She will star in the live-action version that will include songs from the 1989 animated Disney hit as well as new tunes from original composer Alan Menken and "Hamilton" creator



This Nov. 13, 2017 file photo shows singer-actress Halle Bailey at the 2017 Glamour Women of the Year Awards in New York.

Lin-Manuel Miranda.

Bailey will join Jacob Tremblay and Awkwafina in the film.



Tracy Morgan poses in the press room at the 67th Prime-time Emmy Awards on Sept. 20, 2015, in Los Angeles.

"I was told that my grandmother ran track against Wilma Rudolph in the Olympic trials and lost because she was pregnant with my dad."

Last month marked five years since Morgan's life-

changing accident on the New Jersey Turnpike when the minibus he was riding in was rear-ended by a Walmart truck. The crash killed friend and fellow comedian James McNair.

"I'm 50 years old and I've been hit by a truck doing 75 mph," Morgan said. "I thank god for every day."

He said his charitable attitude isn't the result of the accident.

Heather Mills gets UK phone hacking apology, payout

LONDON (AP)—Heather Mills, the former wife of Paul McCartney, and her sister have received an apology and a settlement from Britain's defunct News of the World tabloid over the hacking of their phones.

Heather Mills and her sister Fiona Mills both received a formal apology in Britain's High Court on Monday. In a statement read outside the court, she said she felt "joy and vindication" at the settlement.

"My motivation to win this decade-long fight stemmed from a desire to obtain justice, not only for my family, my charities and myself, but for the thousands of innocent members of the public who,



Heather Mills speaks outside the High Court after settling her claim against News Group Newspapers.

Daughter in bedroom next door frowns on mom's relationship

DEAR ABBY: I am a 54-year-old single woman who recently started dating again after four years of total abstinence. My two adult daughters, ages 18 and 22, live at home with me.

My dilemma: I am smitten, to say the least, with an attractive, supportive and very loving man. I have invited him over and introduced him to the girls, which went well until the other night, when my 22-year-old overheard us being intimate (her bedroom is next to mine). There was no screaming or anything lewd, no nudity or PDA, but I happen to have a slightly noisy bed.

She now refuses to sleep in her room and sent me a text telling me she wants to live with her dad because she thinks it's disgusting. I'm not sure how to feel. On one hand, I think she needs to grow up, but at the same time, I don't want to be the cause of her discomfort.

I explained to her that I'm happy after being alone for so long and perhaps she could be happy for me. My partner thinks she's jealous of our new relationship. The 18-year-old couldn't care less.

My question is, am I behaving inappropriately? Don't I have just as much right to enjoy my home as they do?

GETTING BACK TO IT IN NEW YORK

DEAR GETTING BACK: I can see how your young adult daughter might be uncomfortable being confronted with her mother's sexual activity, to the musical accompa-

niment of squeaking bed springs. Most people have a hard time accepting their parents as sexual beings. You didn't mention whether your daughter's father would welcome this daughter moving in with him. If he's all for it, that would be the way to deal with her discomfort.

DEAR ABBY: I've been happily married for 13 years. Over the last few years we have experienced our brushes with the prospect of infidelity, but we remain committed to each other. While our marriage is a healthy and happy one, our commitment to each other has recently come into question, and we have been fighting more than usual.

Recently, a good friend of mine since almost childhood—and brief lover in my early 20s—with whom I have maintained friendly contact over the years, propositioned me. He said he has never fallen out of love with me and will continue to wait. I cut off my relationship with him without agreeing to an affair (or anything else) and have moved on with my marriage.

My concern is, now I feel this urge to let my husband know about the exchange, mostly to reinforce my commitment to him and maintain transparency. But part of me is afraid that bringing it up will cause more upset, and maybe I should keep it to myself. What should I do?

NEEDING SOME GUIDANCE

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

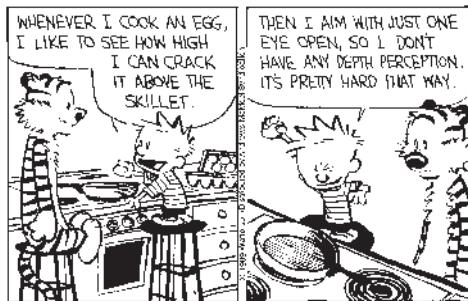
DEAR NEEDING: Not all of our urges are meant to be acted upon. Be honest about your motive. What do you think telling your husband will accomplish? Will it bring you closer to each other, or remind him that you are attractive to other men and make him jealous? Will it anger him enough to want to punch your old friend and former lover in the nose? If this is a possibility, some things are better left unsaid.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Pastimes

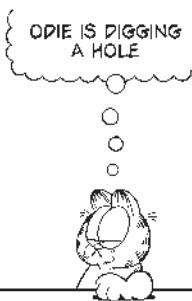
Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®



By Jim Davis



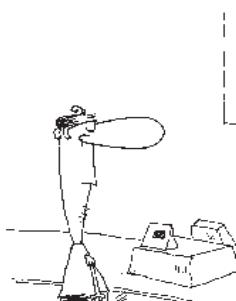
Adam@home



By Bryan Basset



The Duplex



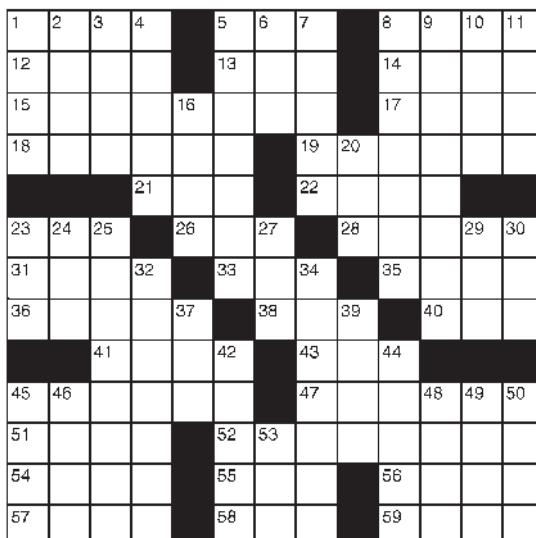
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		41	Now, in a memo	42	Born abroad?	43	Univ. dorm	44	Highland super-visors	45	Speak from memory	46	"Wheel of Fortune" option	47	Roma's old Rome	48	Land	49	Pedestal occupant	50	Secret term for a military operation	51	Pal	52	Secret term for a military operation	53	Rover's pal	54	Life of Pi"	55	Author of tennis of tennis	56	Zounds!"	57	Adolescent	58	"Woe —!"			
28	In a way, slantly	ELAN	MIC	VART	LECC	ASP	OMAR	MORTICIA	ROVE	CNA	SAS	BAREIS	MOW	ART	FUROP	ACRONYM	BHER	IMS	HAHA	INVOCIE	LIPSY	GNY	AAA	HENCE	LID	LED	ACUA	MORALIZE	RUIN	AVE	EARN	KIIS	DES	IHAY						
31	Naked	EL	LE	CC	AS	PR	OM	MAR	RO	VE	S	S	B	A	R	C	O	N	Y	I	V	C	Y	A	A	H	E	N	C	E	L	D	E	D	A	U	R	I	S	E
33	Pro vote	M	O	R	T	I	C	T	R	E	S	P	E	L	S	H	E	U	P	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
35	Harvest	OT	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U			
36	Thin pancake	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
38	"Blue Bloods" aler	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
40	Museum display	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		

Solution time: 23 mins.
 Yesterday's answer 7-10



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5956 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Jessica Simpson, 39; Adrian Grenier, 43; Sofia Vergara, 47; Arlo Guthrie, 72.

Happy Birthday: Look at what you can accomplish instead of dwelling on obstacles. Use what you have been through to cut through any difficulties, and you will discover nothing is as bad as you think. Take a deep breath, and prepare to make changes that will make your life, surroundings and the community you live in better. Your numbers are 8, 15, 21, 29, 24, 48, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't make a fuss; go about your business and avoid getting into a confrontation. Learn from mistakes, and handle peers and family with compassion and understanding. Personal growth will bring you satisfaction, but criticizing others will not. ☀★☆

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Control your emotions when dealing with matters that can affect your position, status or reputation. An inability to let others do as they please will lead to isolation. Do your own thing, and give others the same right. ☀★☆

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Think before you react. You'll have some good ideas, but if you are too pushy, it will be difficult to get others to go along with your plan. Monitor how others react, and make adjustments that will reinforce safety over risk. ☀★☆

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stick close to the people you trust to help you see situations honestly. The suggestions offered may not be your first choice, but they are probably your

best. A physical improvement you make will result in compliments as well as self-satisfaction. ☀★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Choose your words wisely when dealing with situations of an emotional nature. Someone will hold a grudge that can have lasting effects when it comes to getting ahead. Offer positive thoughts, not criticism, to avoid a confrontation. ☀★☆

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are overdue for a change. Try something you've never done. Personal growth, learning about different cultures or setting time aside to volunteer for something you believe in will have an impact on your life. Romance is encouraged. ☀★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Expand your mind, your interests and your skills. Refuse to let an emotional incident stand between you and what you want to do. Don't spend money on frivolous items you don't need or products that promise the impossible. ☀★☆

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be careful who you share your feelings with; not everyone will keep the secrets you share. Concentrate on personal improvements that require discipline and hard work. The satisfaction you will get from the effort you put in will be worth your while. ☀★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't believe everything you hear. Do your own fact-checking, and be patient when urged to make a snap decision. Time is on your side, and waiting until you are sure about what you want to do is in your best interest. ☀★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COURTESY 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Making a change at work or at home will help you make an adjustment that's been a long time coming. Love and romance are highlighted, and an affectionate gesture will help bring you closer to someone special. ☀★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a moment to decide what you want. Refuse to fall into a trap driven by emotional manipulation. Size up the situation, and consider what will make you happy. Only sign up for what you know you can handle. ☀★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You can make personal improvements that will help you physically, financially and emotionally. Designate the amount you want to spend on something before you make a commitment. Love is in the stars, and a promise can be made. ☀★★★★

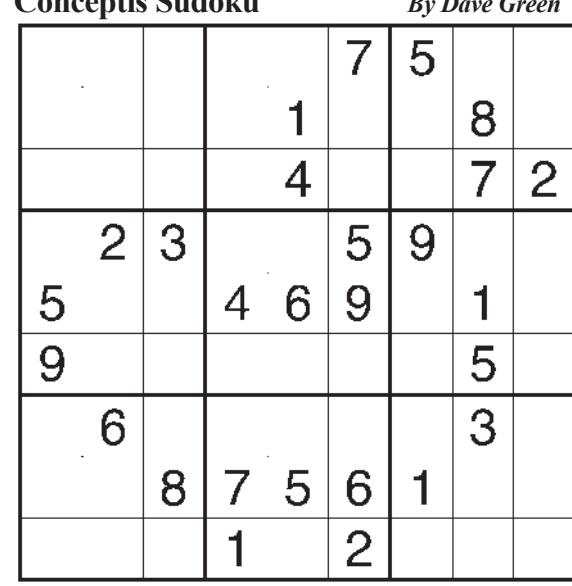
Birthday Baby: You are ambitious, unpredictable and protective. You are dramatic and proactive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

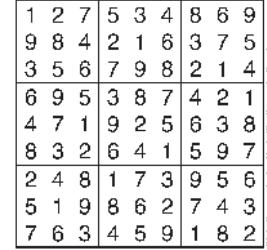
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwords. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BLACK HOLES ARE REAL.

Y G R A V I T A T I O N A L C
M A S S E L C I T R A P I I I
E L W U C R O S S I N G T E N
N A S Y R E P E L S H E U P A
O X T R K F D U S T N P N O L
Z Y C O M L A S E G R A H C L
I N E E R E I C A R C S I S E
R O F H O Y T M E D I S K E G
O I F T F A O S H A P E B L A
H G E N E R A L Y P V E A E M
T E M I T E C A P S A D V T P
N R T C E J B O E M I T R A O
E R E L A T I V I T Y S H E W
V L L E P T O N U M B E R S E
E P A C S E G N I T A O R R

© 2009 Andrews McMeel Syndication, Inc. www.wonderword.com 7/10
Arc, Beaming, Charges, Crossing, Disk, Dust, Effects, Electromagnetic, Escape, Event Horizon, Form, Galaxy, General, Gravitational, Lepton, Light, Magellanic, Mass, Milky Way, Numbers, Object, Particles, Pass, Paths, Power, Ray, Region, Relativity, Repels, Rotating, Shape, Space-time, Surface, System, Telescope, Theory, Tidal, Wave, Zone
Yesterday's Answer: Wonder
Treasuries 13 through 18 and 20 through 34 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CLASSIFIED ADS



Wireless Ridge Landscaping

is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following positions:

(1) NURSERY WORKER

Perform residential and commercial landscaping work including design conceptualization and layout, preparation of plant materials, soil preparation, planting and maintenance. Take care of nursery plants, including propagation and maintenance, proper storage and use fertilizer, and proper storage and application of insecticides. Experience with propagation and care of orchids highly desirable, as well as experience with tropical plants and general nursery related duties. Minimum qualifications: 3 months of related work experience, with a high school or GED diploma.

All positions close 5:00pm on Monday, July 29, 2019.

Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume. It should also include a valid Police Clearance no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

B&J CORPORATION Dba Dive Y2K/ Olive Style

Has an opening for

SCUBA DIVING INSTRUCTOR (1)

DUTIES

To do scuba diving tours, training underwater scuba diving, teach driving to individuals or groups, Explains and demonstrates use of apparatus and equipment. Operates and maintain high pressure compressor for fill-up of scuba tanks. Explains safety guidelines and procedures to customers. Clean and check Scuba Diving gears and apparatus equipment for any defect or break. Does other related jobs.

REQUIREMENTS

- Two years related experience.
- At least High School Graduate
- Must possess a valid Scuba Diving Instructor license from NAUI or PADI
- Must be willing to work with flexible schedule
- Must be able to speak, read and write the Korean language for better communications with Korean tourist customer.

SALARY: \$11.70/HOUR

Interested applicants Send resume to BnJcorp2019@gmail.com or call 1-670-233-6322 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

Wireless Ridge Landscaping

is seeking for U.S. qualified workers for the following positions:

3) LANDSCAPING AND GROUNDSKEEPING WORKERS

Perform residential and commercial landscaping work including design conceptualization and layout, preparation of plant materials, soil preparation, planting and maintenance. Also performs grounds keeping duties and other related duties as assigned. Minimum qualifications: 3-12 months of related work experience, with a high school or GED diploma.

All positions close 5:00pm on Tuesday, July 30, 2019.

Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume. It should also include a valid Police Clearance no more than 6 months old. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Wireless Ridge Landscaping is an equal opportunity employer.

B&J CORPORATION Dba Dive Y2K/ Olive Style

Has an opening for

RESERVATIONS SALES AGENT (1)

DUTIES

- Make arrangement and accept reservations from Hotel/Tour Agency and Walk in Customers.
- Make daily schedule for Dive arrangements and schedules.
- Explain Diving Tour packages to tourist customers.
- Make Daily Sales report and record receipt of payments from customers.

REQUIREMENTS

- At least High School Graduate
- Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservations System)
- At least 3 year related experience in travel/tourism industry.
- Knowledge in Scuba Diving activities is a plus.
- Police Clearance required.
- Prior work experience certificate required.
- Police clearance and previous employment certificate will be equally applied to both U.S. Workers and CW-1 Workers.

SALARY: \$8.54/HOUR

Interested applicants Send resume to BnJcorp2019@gmail.com or call 1-670-233-6322 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

WHATZIT Solution: Autumn leaves



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Are you tired of high priced cable TV? How about free? Ask me how! Plus, offers a very lucrative pay plan. We are international. http://infiniteincome.net. Questions, call Dixie 214 735 3727.

B&J CORPORATION Dba Dive Y2K/ Olive Style

Has an opening for

SALES MANAGER (1)

DUTIES

Direct overall operation of business related matters such as managing staff, pricing, distribution of products or service to the customers. Analyze sales statistics gathered to determine sales and service. Review Operation records and reports to project sales and determine profitability. Determine price schedules and discount rates.

QUALIFICATIONS

- High School Graduate with 4 years related experience.
- At least 4 years related experience
- Excellent written and oral communications skills in Korean/English preferred.
- Good customer relation skills
- Knowledge in clothing trends is required.
- Strong sales background required.
- Police clearance required.
- Previous employment certificate required.
- Requirements will be equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.

SALARY: \$13.92/HOUR

Interested applicants Send resume to BnJcorp2019@gmail.com or call 1-670-233-6322 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

- | | |
|-----------|------|
| • 3-Liner | \$15 |
| • 5-Liner | \$24 |

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

WHATZIT™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

SPRING SUMMER

AU

WINTER

RAINBOW CORPORATION

Has an opening for

COOK

Job duties:

- Plans and select Restaurant Menu.
- Shop and Order all Material and Supply needed for the Restaurant.
- Manage costing of Menu Items.
- Cooks and prepares customers order based on the menu.
- Analyze recipes to assign prices to menu items, based on food, labor and overhead costs.
- Arrange for equipment purchases or repairs.
- Check the quality of raw or cooked food products to ensure that standards are met.
- Check the quantity and quality of received products.
- Collaborate with management to plan and develop recipes or menus, taking into account such factors as seasonal availability of ingredients or the likely number of customers.

Requirements:

- Vast knowledge in Japanese cuisine
- Knowledge in different Japanese spices and ingredients.
- Must be able to read, write and speak Japanese.
- 24 months work related experience.
- Police Clearance required

Salary: \$14.40-15.50 per hour

Interested applicants Send resume to limsoffice@yahoo.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

RAINBOW CORPORATION

Has an opening for

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Job duties:

- Observe Staff performance to on to assure conformance with company standards.
- Develop or implement product-marketing strategies, including advertising campaigns or sales promotions.
- Direct administrative activities directly related to making products or providing services.
- Direct and coordinate activities of business.
- Direct non-merchandising departments of business, such as advertising or purchasing.
- Direct or coordinate financial or budget activities to fund operations or increase efficiency.
- Coordinates with other Tour Agencies who handles incoming Korean Tourist customers.
- Assist in arranging & coordinating activities of Tour companies engaged in conducting marine & land tour activities for Korean tourists, observe agent performance on tours to assure conformance with standards.
- Prepares reports on tour activities, correspond with tour operators in Korea, prepare exit & arrival schedules, must be able to formulate, organize & execute attractive & competitive tour package in Korean to be sold in Korea
- Act as liaison between tour agents and company and resolves any problems if any arises.
- Must know system knowledge in computer and perform other duties as required

Requirements:

- High School Graduate with 4 years related experience or College graduate
- 4 Years experience in a tour or travel industry,
- Must have computer skill for input of daily sales, handling reservations and corresponding with other agents.
- Must be able to read, write and speak Korean.
- Police clearance required will be equally applied both to US workers and CW-1 Workers.
- Proof of Previous employment is required.

Salary: \$17.23 per hour

Interested applicants Send resume to limsoffice@yahoo.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm except holidays)

This is a temporary full time position.

Gauff, Barty out; Serena still in, fined \$10K

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Out of escapes, out of surprises, Coco Gauff knew her captivating Wimbledon ride at age 15 was nearing its conclusion.

The thousands of spectators at Court No. 1 on Monday realized it, too, so they made sure to show their appreciation for the youngest qualifier at the All England Club in the professional era and youngest Week 2 participant since 1991.

Fans, most of whom probably hadn't heard of Gauff until last week, rose and roared as she fended off the initial two match points she faced against 2018 French Open champion Simona Halep. It was reminiscent of the way the Gauff began a comeback victory in her previous match. This time, though, Gauff could not come through, beaten by the older, more experienced Halep 6-3, 6-3.

"It was really surprising, because you don't really expect this kind of support when you're in another country, not your home country. I really did feel like I was probably playing in New York. I'm just really happy that people believe in me," said Gauff, who beat Venus Williams in the first round for quite a Grand Slam tournament debut.

"I wasn't feeling my best, I wasn't playing my best," Gauff said as she wiped away tears at her news conference, where she noted she wasn't sure why she needed a visit from a doctor in the second set, "but they were still supporting me, no matter what."

While Gauff couldn't get past former No. 1 Halep, another American, 55th-ranked Alison Riske, stopped the 15-match winning streak of the current No. 1, Ash Barty, eliminating her 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

LONDON—Roger Federer on Monday became the oldest man to reach a Grand Slam quarterfinals in 28 years when he booked his place in the Wimbledon last eight for the 17th time.

Eight-time champion Federer breezed past Italy's Matteo Berrettini 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 in just 74 minutes to make sure of a spot in his 55th quarterfinals at the Slams.

It was also his 99th win at the All England Club.

At 37, he is the oldest man to reach the last eight at the majors since 39-year-old Jimmy Connors at the 1991 US Open.

Federer, who hit 24 winners and just five unforced errors, will face Japan's Kei Nishikori for a place in the semifinals.

Nishikori defeated Mikhail Kukushkin of Kazakhstan 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 to reach the last eight for the second successive year.

The 29-year-old Japanese



United States' Serena Williams returns the ball to Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro in a women's singles match during Day 7 of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Monday, July 8, 2019.

14th time after beating Carla Suarez Navarro 6-2, 6-2.

Even though she is short on matches this year, Williams is still big on grass.

The seven-time Wimbledon champion, who missed about a year of play while she had a baby in 2017 but returned to the tennis tour in 2018, entered the tournament without having played since the third round of the French Open—skipping the grass-court warm-up tournaments.

"I definitely haven't had enough (matches)," said Williams, who had been dealing with an injured left knee. "I have more matches this week than literally the past five months. So, yikes."

Williams reached the quarterfinals at the Australian Open, then retired from a match at Indian Wells, withdrew from matches in Miami and Rome, and then played at the French Open.

"I know that I can play, and now that I'm feeling better physically I almost feel a relief more than anything," Williams said. "Like, OK, finally I can play tennis."

Against Suarez Navarro, Williams won six straight games from 3-2 in the first set and broke for a 5-2 lead in the second. She easily closed it out from there.

Williams, who lost to Angelique Kerber in last year's Wimbledon final, will next

face Riske, an unseeded American.

Williams' last loss was also against American opposition, Sofia Kenin, in the third round at Roland Garros.

"Well the last time I faced a fellow American I lost, so I definitely want to do well his time," Williams said. "And yeah, she's great on the grass. She took out the No. 1 player in the world who just won a grass-court tournament. I watched that match, so I'll be ready for her."

Williams has been fined \$10,000 by the All England Club for damaging a court during practice before the Wimbledon tournament started.

Fabio Fognini was fined \$3,000. The Italian said during his third-round loss that he wished a bomb would hit Wimbledon.

Nick Kyrgios was handed two fines, one for \$3,000 from the first round and another for \$5,000 from the second round—both for unsportsmanlike conduct. The Australian lost to Rafael Nadal in four sets in the second round.

In other results, No. 8 Elina Svitolina beat No. 24 Petra Martic 6-4, 6-2, Zhang Shuai defeated Dayana Yastremska 6-4, 1-6, 6-2, Karolina Muchova beat No. 3 Karolina Pliskova 4-6, 7-5, 13-11, and Barbora Strycova came from a set and break down to beat Elise Mertens 4-6, 7-5, 6-2.

Svitolina won six straight games from 4-4 in the first set. Martic called for medical treatment on her left leg after the first game of the second set and her movement appeared to be hampered the rest of the way. She asked for treatment again at 4-1.

Thirty winners in all flew off Nadal's racket, none better than the running cross-court passing shot he flicked over the net as he chased down a Sousa dropshot to end a breathtaking 20-shot exchange.

While the Centre Court crowd erupted as they rose to their feet, some fans were seen bowing to Nadal's greatness and even Sousa joined in by applauding the effort.

In other results, defending champion Novak Djokovic reached his 11th Wimbledon quarterfinals and 45th at the majors with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 win over France's Ugo Humbert.

Djokovic will next face Belgium's David Goffin. Djokovic, 32, has a 5-1 career record over 21st seed Goffin who will be playing in his first Wimbledon quarterfinals. Humbert, the world No. 66, had never played a match on grass before this season.

"Right now, Ash is playing well," Riske said. "I believe that I am, as well."

That's certainly true.

She improved to 14-1 on grass courts this season and reached the first major quarterfinal of her career in 30 appearances.

Meanwhile, Serena Williams advanced to the Wimbledon quarterfinals for the

Federer nears century mark at All England Club

star trails Federer, 3-7, in career meetings although he won their most recent meeting at the ATP Finals in London at the end of last season.

Monday's win was Nishikori's ninth in nine meetings against world 58 Kukushkin.

Nadal cruises

Rafael Nadal had plenty to grumble about during the first week of Wimbledon.

The Spaniard was irritated at being seeded third at the grasscourt major despite his status as world number two and was left exasperated when the draw put him on a second-round collision course with Australian hot-head Nick Kyrgios—a player who thrives on rubbing Nadal up the wrong way.

Those setbacks have well

and truly fired him up and it was poor Joao Sousa who felt the full force of Nadal's fury on Monday during a 6-2 6-2 6-2 demolition job in the fourth round.

Tougher tests will surely come for the twice champion, who may have to beat Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic if he wants to complete a Roland Garros-Wimbledon double for the third time in his career, but for now he was happy to show the kind of ruthless streak that Boris Becker hailed as "vintage Nadal on grass".

"It was a good solid match. A lot of positive things in there," the 18-times Grand Slam champion, whose surgically-repaired body often struggles to cope with the demands of playing on the slick grass surface, said with a smile.

"Good forehands, good backhands and creating some good volleys, so I am happy to be in the quarter-finals again."

"The body is holding up well and I am playing some good tennis and winning matches in straight sets also helps."

Until this year, the only Portuguese to create a racket, literally, in the singles at Wimbledon was Michelle Larcher de Brito.

But whereas she made her name a decade ago thanks to the cacophony of ear-splitting shrieks and squeals that could be heard all around, and beyond, the 42 acres that make up the All England Club, Sousa had let his racket do the talking as he became the first Portuguese to reach the last 16 of a major.

The run included a memo-

nable second-round win over former U.S. Open champion Marin Cilic but the world number 69 simply ran out of ideas when he came up against a tennis behemoth who had his eyes set on a 39th quarter-final appearance at the majors.

The sweet-spot in Nadal's racket appeared to be the size of a beachball on Monday as the Spaniard fired off formidable forehands, breathtaking backhands and thunderbolt aces to burst Sousa's Wimbledon bubble.

As Nadal hurtled to a 4-0 lead in the first set, Sousa appeared to have adopted some Larcher de Brito tactics by producing a couple of comical grunts. But rather than throwing Nadal off stride, the "hay-way" yelps only made the crowd chuckle.

After Kawhi issue, Clippers, Lakers loading up on depth



LOS ANGELES—

Now that the dust has settled from the Kawhi Leonard sweepstakes, the Los Angeles Clippers and Los Angeles Lakers are filling out their respective rosters.

According to multiple reports, the Clippers are bringing back forward JaMychal Green while the Lakers are poised to add guard Avery Bradley. Both players have reportedly agreed to two-year deals.

Green's agreement—a two-year, \$10 million contract, was first reported by The Athletic. ESPN reported the Lakers' two-year, \$9.7 million deal with Bradley.

With Leonard and Paul George as the team's obvious centerpieces, the Clippers have assembled an incredible amount of depth on their roster. The 29-year-old Green is the latest piece.

Green, who reportedly turned down more money from other teams to pursue a championship with the Clip-

pers, proved to be a good fit under Doc Rivers late last season. Green landed in L.A. after being traded by the Memphis Grizzlies, where he spent the majority of his career.

A 6-foot-9 forward capable of stretching the floor while also battling down low, Green averaged 9.4 points and 6.3 rebounds while shooting 48.3 percent from the field and 40.3 percent from long distance in 65 regular season games.

Green was better in the playoffs, averaging 11 points per game while shooting north of 50 percent from the field and beyond the arc as the Clippers pushed the Golden State Warriors to six games in the first round.

The Clippers now legitimately go 10 deep with an abundance of lineup options.

Bradley started last season with the Clippers before being sent to Memphis in the aforementioned Green trade. Bradley finished the year strong with the Grizzlies, but the rebuilding franchise waived him on Saturday.

Mutual interest between Westbrook and Heat

MIAMI—The Oklahoma City Thunder are now looking to trade Russell Westbrook. With an apparent Miami Heat interest, Westbrook is also interested in them.

Just a few days ago, none of this was even a thought. The Oklahoma City Thunder were seemingly gearing up and retooling their roster for what was to be the second year of the Russell Westbrook-Paul George era. Then the Kawhi Leonard deal happened.

Fast forward several days and the Thunder are apparently looking to ship away their only remaining superstar after seemingly being forced to trade away Paul George to the L.A. Clippers. While many assumed that it would be the case, it has been confirmed over the past day or so that Russell Westbrook is indeed looking for a new home as well, or at least mulling over his "next steps." This would be wise because the Thunder have seemingly already planned theirs.

Almost as soon as that word came down via reports, the speculation started to ramp up big time. From what might happen to which team he may land with, the rumor mill was ablaze.

While there had been rumors of a potential Miami Heat interest floating out there, it was on Saturday that we all got our confirmation. It was in the form of a tweet from Miami based writer Barry Jackson.

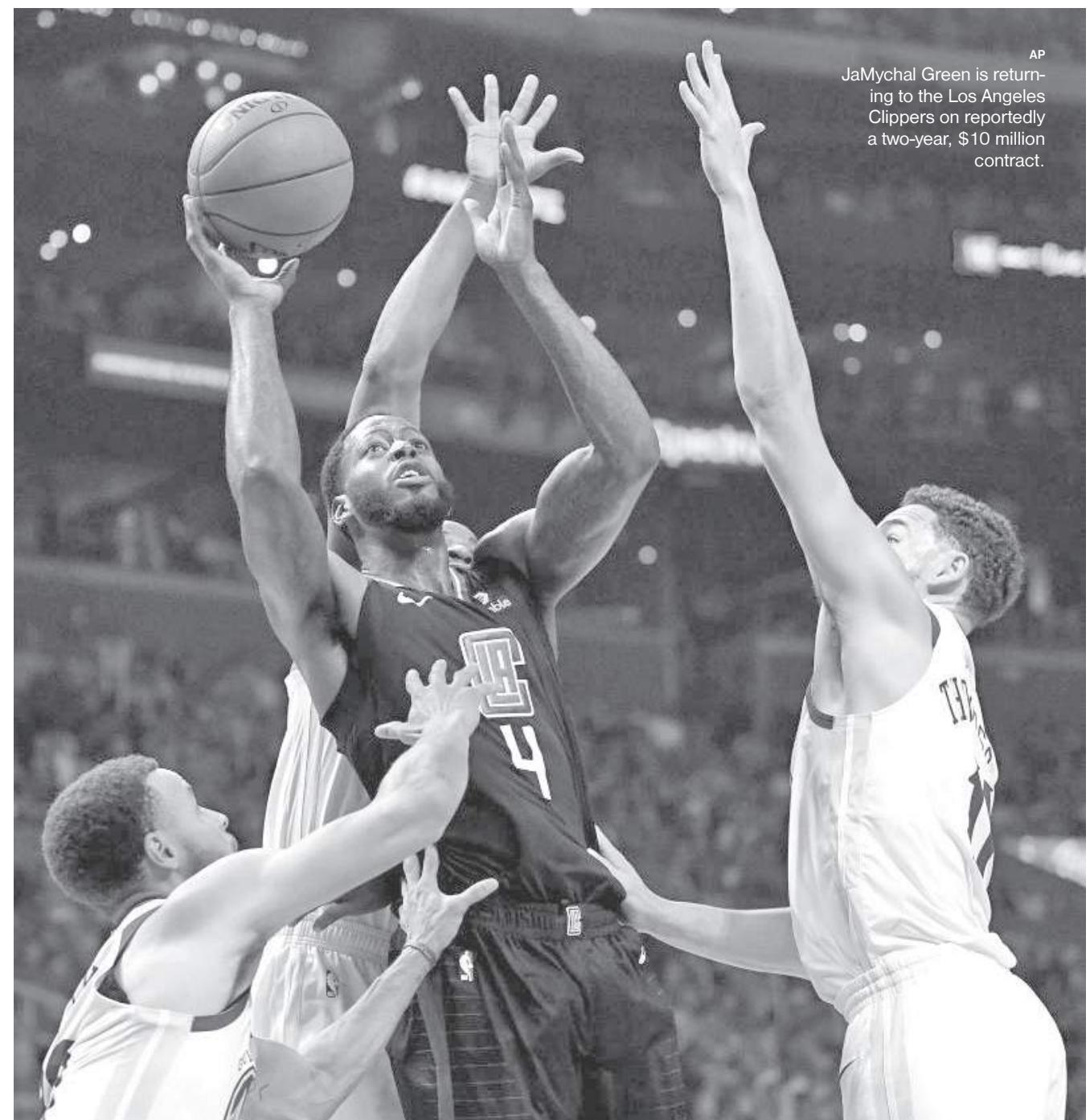
Well, as one side of this Miami Heat rumor-driven equation was coming together, so too was the other side. Although it took several days to finally come to the actual forefront of reality, we have now found out that this interest is mutual. According to newer reports from Adrian Wojnarowski of ESPN, Russell Westbrook is interested in a potential move to Miami as well.

If this is a deal that the Miami Heat can get done in any form or fashion, they must do so. The jury is still out about where this type of move would put them in the NBA Championship pecking order, as it is unclear what a trade like this might cost the Miami Heat, but it would definitely vault them to the top of the NBA's Eastern Conference.

These were potential packages for Westbrook from the Miami Heat, whether he was worth the gamble, or another rumored package of John Wall and Bradley Beal would be the better deal.

Either way you slice it, it looks like it could be a good move from both sides. The Oklahoma City Thunder would dive deeper into a complete rebuild, more expeditiously than casually.

The Miami Heat would in one offseason, where everyone said they were stuck and loaded with unworkable deals, go from being a lower to middling Eastern Conference team to among the Conference's and League's elite.



Bradley, per ESPN, will clear waivers later Monday and sign with the Lakers, where he will add a much-needed infusion of outside shooting and intensity on the defensive end on a team built around LeBron James and Anthony Davis.

Bradley, a career 36.4 percent 3-point shooter, will likely come off the bench and serve in a role similar to that of newly-acquired Danny Green, another 3-and-D guard.

The Lakers have also added six-time All-Star DeMarcus Cousins and guards Troy Daniels and Quinn Cook in free agency. Daniels and Cook are career 40 and 41.8 percent shooters from long distance. Green, after shooting 45.5 percent from 3 for the champion Toronto Raptors last year, is up to 40.4 percent for his career.

Nuggets acquire Grant from Thunder

Jerami Grant gives Denver another power forward who can do a little bit of everything.

The Oklahoma City Thunder obtained yet another first-round pick, which allows them to do a little bit of anything.

The Nuggets bolstered their front court by acquiring the 25-year-old Grant from the

Thunder on Monday for a 2020 first-round pick. ESPN first reported the deal.

It's an additional first-round selection for the Thunder, who are in line for at least four more assuming the blockbuster deal that sends Paul George to the Los Angeles Clippers goes through. It would also give Oklahoma City the rights to as many as 13 first-round picks over the next seven drafts.

The 6-foot-9, 220-pound Grant is coming off a breakout season that saw him set career highs in points (13.6) and rebounds (5.2). He shot 49.7% from the field and 39.2% from 3-point range. On the defensive end, he displayed his versatility by blocking 100 shots and recording 61 steals.

Originally a second-round pick by Philadelphia in 2014, Grant—the son of longtime NBA player Harvey Grant—has taken off since being sent to the Thunder in a 2016 deal.

"I think it's one of the best things that could have happened to my career, just getting traded here from Philly. Just the opportunity here," he said at his exit interview in April. "It was an opportunity in Philly as well, but the opportunity here to play on a great team, play in a great or-

ganization like this. I think it was huge for me and my career, just in my development. I've gotten so much better since I got here."

Jabari Parker to Hawks

The Atlanta Hawks are giving Jabari Parker a chance.

Parker, the well-traveled No. 2 pick in the 2014 NBA draft, has agreed to a two-year, \$13 million contract with the Atlanta Hawks, sources said. Parker will have a player option for the second year of the deal, according to Haynes.

The Hawks will be the fourth NBA team for the 24-year-old Parker, a Duke product who began his career with the Milwaukee Bucks. Parker, a 6-foot-8 forward known for his skills on offense, has shown a consistent ability to score at the NBA level, but has been hampered by injuries.

Parker twice tore the ACL in his left knee during his time with the Bucks, who allowed him to leave in free agency after the 2017-18 season. Parker signed a two-year, \$40 million deal with his hometown Chicago Bulls, but the Bulls shipped Parker and Bobby Portis to the Washington Wizards at the trade deadline.

Parker played in 25 games

AP

JaMychal Green is returning to the Los Angeles Clippers on reportedly a two-year, \$10 million contract.

for the Wizards, averaging 15 points per game on a career-high 52.3 percent shooting, but the team declined his \$20 million option for 2019-20 season and let him hit the free agency market after the season.

Wolves finalize 6-player acquisition

The Minnesota Timberwolves have finalized the acquisition of six players for roster depth and reserve roles, including a sign-and-trade deal with Portland forward Jake Layman.

The Timberwolves then completed a trade with Golden State as part of the deal that sent D'Angelo Russell from Brooklyn to the Warriors, bringing guard Shabazz Napier and forward Treveon Graham to Minnesota for the rights to Israeli forward Lior Eliyahu. The Wolves also announced Monday the signing of free agent forward Noah Vonleh and rookie guard Jarrett Culver.

Culver was acquired from Phoenix in the draft-day deal that sent No. 11 pick Cameron Johnson and forward Dario Saric to the Suns.

Vonleh signed a one-year, \$2 million contract. Layman received a three-year, \$11.5 million deal.

Greater support to women's soccer sought

LYON, France (AP)—As the U.S. players celebrated their Women's World Cup title by dancing on the field, a chant rose from the crowd in Lyon: "Equal pay! Equal pay!"

It was a fitting tribute after the team's monthlong march to a fourth overall title in the sport's premier tournament, where equity emerged as a main theme. The Americans were out front because of their lawsuit back home seeking to be paid as much as their counterparts on the men's national team.

But it wasn't just about pay equity at this World Cup. Players hope the attention they've received in France translates to greater support for the women's game—and women in general.

"We, as all players, every player at the World Cup, put on the most incredible show that you could ever ask for. We can't do anything more to impress more, to be better ambassadors, to take on more, to play better," U.S. star Megan Rapinoe said. "It's time to move that conversation to the next step."

Even the hosts, eliminated by the United States in the quarterfinals, believed the focus on the tournament—with its record-breaking television ratings—could lead to a greater victory in terms of player development and resources.

"I think we achieved something and I'm proud to have shown France that football can also be played by women, and that's a first victory. I think it will help for the future, but I can't guarantee it," French forward Eugenie Le Sommer said. "To have won over the public is a good thing, but we shouldn't just be satisfied with that."

For others, it's just getting what they've been promised.

The Nigerian team staged a brief sit-in at its hotel after it was



The U.S. team celebrates winning the Women's World Cup final soccer match against the Netherlands at the Stade de Lyon in Decines, outside Lyon, France, Sunday, July 7, 2019. AP

eliminated from the tournament because players had not been paid their bonuses and allowances. Some were owed money from as far back as 2016.

In soccer-crazy Argentina, the women's team barely registers in the shadow of the men's team. But the Argentinian women earned their first-ever World Cup point at the tournament with a scoreless draw with Japan in the group stage. Argentina had been outscored 33-2 in six previous games.

"For women's football in Argentina it is great that we are starting to flourish," Argentina coach Carlos Borrello said. "We are starting on our way and just

starting to face up to these powerful forces in football."

A movement for equality pushed Argentina's soccer association into giving professional status to the national women's league earlier this year. The fight for recognition has coincided with the country's feminist movement taking to the streets with marches against violence and inequality.

Jamaica coach Hue Menzies was blunt about the influence he hoped the Reggae Girlz would have back home: "We want to make an impact socially."

Like many teams in the region, Jamaica's women have

struggled for basic support, even equipment. There's been little or no compensation for players. The Reggae Girlz even disbanded in 2008 but were revived five years ago with the help of Bob Marley's daughter, Cedella, who became an ambassador for the team, tirelessly seeking sponsors and funding.

"We took this project not because of football but to change mindset of how we perceive women," Menzies said. "The thing is we leave this program in a better situation. We will need to discuss with the federation about better preparations before a World Cup."

FIFA itself came under fire during the tournament for the imbalance of prize money between the men's and women's World Cups.

The Americans earned \$4 million for winning the World Cup—double the amount earned four years ago—as part of a \$30 million prize pool. But that's far less than the \$38 million earned by France for lifting the men's trophy last July in Moscow.

FIFA President Gianni Infantino promised to double the prize money to \$60 million for the next Women's World Cup in 2023, but it will still lag far behind the \$440 million that will be paid out at the men's 2022 tournament in Qatar.

FIFA's cash reserves at the end of 2018 stood at \$2.74 billion.

Soccer's governing body also was criticized for scheduling the Women's World Cup final on the same day as the

Gold Cup final in the United States and the Copa America final in Brazil.

A day before the final, Rapinoe suggested FIFA doesn't truly care about the women's game.

"If you really care are you letting the gap grow? Are you scheduling three finals on the same day? No, you're not. Are you letting federations have

 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP
FRANCE 2019

their teams play two games in the four years between each tournament? No, you're not," Rapinoe said. "That's what I mean about the level of care, you need attention and detail and the best minds that we have in the women's game, helping it grow every single day."

Rapinoe was awed by the chants after the U.S. women won the championship match 2-0 over the Netherlands on Sunday.

"To have something like that, you know, obviously in the biggest match, that went so far beyond anything in sport, it was pretty incredible," she said.

She is among twenty-eight members of the current player pool who filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles in March. The lawsuit alleges "institutionalized gender discrimination" that includes inequitable compensation when compared with their counterparts on the men's national team.

The two sides have agreed to mediate the lawsuit now that the World Cup is over.

"I think everybody's ready for it," Rapinoe said after the team arrived back in New York

on Monday. "It's time. I think that we've put this whole movement on our back and done so, so beautifully, the entire team. I think the conversation deserves to be moved to the next step, and I think everybody's ready for it and excited for it."

US victory most-viewed match this year

The United States' 2-0 victory over the Netherlands in Sunday's FIFA Women's World Cup final averaged nearly 15.6 million U.S. viewers on English- and Spanish-language television.

It was the most-viewed match this season, but a decrease from the 2015 final.

The match averaged 14.27 million viewers on Fox, according to the network and Nielsen, and peaked at 19.6 million.

It was a 22 percent increase over last year's FIFA World Cup men's final between France and Croatia, which averaged 11.44 million.

The audience was down 43.8 percent from the 2015 final between the U.S. and Japan, which averaged 25.4 million viewers. That match though was played in Canada and started at 7 p.m. Eastern, compared to Sunday's in France, which kicked off at 11 a.m. Eastern.

The Telemundo broadcast averaged 1.3 million and peaked at 2 million as the match concluded.

The match averaged 589,000 viewers online—289,000 on Fox apps and 300,000 on NBC and Telemundo apps—which makes it the most-streamed Women's World Cup match ever.

Report: Neymar told PSG he wants to leave

If Neymar has his way, his sojourn to Paris will end after two largely impressive, yet unsatisfying seasons for him.

According to a report in UOL Esporte from Brazil, in a conversation with Paris Saint-Germain sporting director Leonardo, a fellow Brazilian, Neymar told Leonardo that he desired to leave PSG this summer. If true, it's the latest strong rumor and report that Neymar is serious about leaving Paris before accomplishing his goal of winning the FIFA Ballon d'Or.

This latest report is important because Neymar didn't arrive on day one of preseason training for PSG on Monday. PSG claim that it was caught off guard by this and were surprised he didn't show up. Neymar and his handlers, on

the other hand, say that they told PSG previously that Neymar has some functions to attend to and won't arrive in Paris until next week.

In addition, Neymar is coming off a serious ankle injury suffered on international duty in early June and could in theory still need time to recover.

The bookies favorites these days are for Neymar to return to Barcelona, but it just seems nearly impossible to imagine Barca signing both Neymar and Atletico Madrid's Antoine Griezmann. For Financial Fair Play reasons, Barca would have to offload many of their players just to afford the pair when considering yearly salary and transfer fee.

The Neymar transfer saga appears prime to go down to the wire as both clubs negotiate through intermediaries before an agreement is reached. But could Neymar speed things up if he doesn't show up at all? Or will PSG treat him like Adrian Rabiot last year, and leave him benched.

For PSG, Neymar still has 3 years left on his contract and is still an absolute star in Ligue 1 and the side's best chance of winning a Champions League title. Losing him, no matter the return, leaves a giant hole that's difficult to replace in terms of production. However, his off the field antics may just make PSG bite it's tongue and let him go.



Mets' Alonso wins Home Run Derby, \$1M

CLEVELAND (AP)—Pete Alonso took one final swing and flipped his bat high in the air. Another walk-off.

Money ball.

As the crowd roared, the New York Mets rookie headed toward the mound and tightly squeezed his cousin and pitcher Derek Morgan, who had helped him win the All-Star Home Run Derby and \$1 million.

Alonso outlasted a worn-down fellow rookie Vladimir Guerrero Jr. in the final round Monday night to take home a prize that nearly doubled his 2019 salary.

With just seconds to spare, Alonso connected for a homer

to left-center to edge Guerrero 23-22 after the Blue Jays' powerhouse put on a historic display by hitting 91 homers before he ran out of gas following an epic semifinal matchup against Dodgers outfielder Joc Pederson.

"There's so many guys that just put on a show, like Joc, he was amazing. Vlad, they did such a good job," Alonso said. "Everybody put on a show. To me it didn't really seem like the jitters were there, because everyone was awesome. I mean everyone was showing their stuff."

After his last homer cleared the wall, Alonso was swarmed by the NL All-Stars who along with a crowd of 36,119 fans were treated to a power display unlike any in the event's history.

"This was surreal," Alonso said.

Alonso is the second rookie to win outright, following Yankees star Aaron Judge in 2017. He's also the first Mets player to win the derby since Darryl Strawberry shared the title with Wally Joyner in 1986.

Alonso, making the major league minimum of \$555,000 this season, has hit 30 home runs. The first baseman will



Pete Alonso of the New York Mets hits during the Major League Baseball Home Run Derby, Monday, July 8, 2019, in Cleveland. The MLB baseball All-Star Game will be played Tuesday.

kindness in their hearts."

One of the only bright spots this season for the struggling Mets, Alonso gave New York's NL fans something to brag about while the Yankees chase another title.

He showed some dramatic flair with two nail-biting wins to reach the final against Guerrero. He nipped Cleveland's Carlos Santana 14-13 in the first round and Atlanta's Ronald Acuña Jr. 20-19 in the second to set up a showdown with the 20-year-old Guerrero, whose Hall of Fame father won the event in 2007.

With one of baseball's most fearsome swings, Guerrero figured to be a force but there was no way of predicting he'd hit 91 homers—74 more than his dad's entire total 12 years ago.

Following the event, Guerrero slowly walked to his chair in the clubhouse and sat down.

"I was kind of scared he was going to beat me because he was hitting second," Guerrero said through a translator. "It was back-and-forth and back-and-forth. It was really tiring."

ANOTHER

From Page 28

standings going into today's last round-robin matches.

Tahiti is ahead and likely to get the gold medal in the team event with its 5-0 mark, while the race for the silver and bronze is still too close to call with Fiji and New Caledonia holding similar 3-1 marks.

New Caledonia will play Samoa and Tahiti today, while Fiji will square off against Kiribati and Samoa. The CNMI will have its last game against Tonga, which is in fifth place with only one victory to show in four matches.

XVI PACIFIC GAMES

MEDAL TALLY

(As of 7pm/July 9)

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
New Caledonia	8	7	6	21
Tahiti	4	4	2	10
Fiji	4	3	5	12
Samoa	3	0	5	8
Kiribati	3	0	0	3
Papua New Guinea	1	7	0	8
Solomon Islands	1	0	2	3
Guam	0	2	1	3
Wallis and Futuna	0	1	0	1
Nauru	0	2	2	2
Cook Islands	0	0	1	1

FINALS

From Page 28

against them," she added.

The CNMI paddler will be battling Cairns, Tahiti's Vaimiti Maoni, the Cook Islands' Ioana Turia, Fiji's Elenoa Vateitei, and New Caledonia's Marcy Manate in the finals today at 9:24am (6:24am Saipan time).

"Thanks to coach Dino (MNPSF vice president Dino Manning) for the training and workout programs to prepare for the Pacific Games. Also, thanks to my dad, Justin Andrew, and the Saipan Paddling Club coach for the encouragement, and lastly thanks to coach Jason Tarkong for his words of encouragements and support for my teammates here representing the CNMI in the va'a races," said Kalea, who will be on Lane 2 in the gold medal race.

Meanwhile, Steven Goodwin also competed in the men's V-1's 500m event and raced against world champion Kevin Ceran Jerusalemy of Tahiti. As expected, Jerusalemy topped Heat 3 with a blistering time of 2:08.87. Goodwin clocked in at 3:00.11.

"It's an amazing experience just being in the presence of some of my idols and the world's best," said Goodwin.

Meanwhile, competitions at the Samoa Aquatic Centre also kicked



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI paddler Steven Goodwin, left, poses for a photo with his rivals in the V-1's 500m race in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Mulifanua Sheraton Beach Resort.

off yesterday with four CNMI swimmers reaching the finals.

Tenorio submitted 2:22.11 in the 200m backstroke preliminaries to make it to the gold medal race, which took place last night and results were unavailable as off press time.

Watanabe also qualified in the finale for the 200m backstroke race after recording 2:51.45 and will be joined in

the gold medal race by Thompson. Gauran, on the other hand, was entered in the finals of the 200m breaststroke event.

In other results, David Boyer and Lennosuke Suzuki competed in the 50m butterfly and clocked in at 29.56 seconds and 29.73 seconds, respectively, to place ahead of seven swimmers (from Guam, Tonga, Palau, and Vanuatu).

TENNIS

From Page 28

advance to the medal round.

Sinclair and company will next face Kiribati, which the CNMI was originally set to meet last Monday during the opening day of the tennis competition, but the duel was rescheduled due to rain. With the one day delay, the Commonwealth players will have to complete the pool play today and face Nauru in the afternoon match.

Kiribati got an outright victory over Nauru yesterday after sweeping the two singles matches, while results of the doubles event were unavailable as off press time

last night.

In other results in the men's team event, Tahiti topped New Caledonia, 3-0; American Samoa won over Tonga, 2-0; and Papua New Guinea defeated Guam, 2-0.

In the women's division, host Samoa downed the CNMI, 3-0.

After Eleanor Schuster edged Isabel Heras in the first singles play last Monday, Samoa got the early victory when Steffi Carruthers outclassed her Fed Cup teammate and CNMI's No.1 singles player Carol Lee, 6-2, 6-1. Carruthers and Schuster also needed only two sets to beat Lee and Heras in the doubles, 7-5, 6-4.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Carol Lee, Tania Tan, Malika Miyawaki, and Isabel Heras pose for a photo in one of the soaked courts at the Apia Park last Monday during the opening of the tennis competition in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.



Gauff, Barty out;
Serena still in,
fined \$10K

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

After Kawhi issue,
Clippers, Lakers
loading up on depth

PAGE 25



28 WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Paddler, swimmers reach finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI has a shot at making it to the medal tally in the XVI Pacific Games after va'a's Kalea Andrew and swimming's Juhn Tenorio, Aika Watanabe, Sophia, Gauran, and Jinju Thompson advanced to the finals of their respective events in Samoa yesterday.



The CNMI's Aika Watanabe is in the finals of the 200m backstroke event in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.

Andrew ruled Heat 3 of the V-1's 500m race after clocking in at 2:53:40 in the preliminaries. She was the lone paddler

in her heat to finish the qualifier in less than three minutes and was way ahead of her competitors, as Guam's Isabel Gutierrez came in at second with a time of 3:06.93. Samoa's Anne Cairns (3:08.45), Palau's Samantha Rech-

ellul (3:22.17), and Papua New Guinea's Mauri Ila (3:28.85) completed the field.

"For the first few days of being here, I slowly grew more and more anxious and nervous, but as I went

tin and coach Jason Tarkong.

"And I feel pretty nervous and excited for the finals tomorrow (today) because all the best paddlers are going to be out and I'll be racing

See FINALS on Page 27



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Northern Marianas National Paddle Sports Federation president Justin Andrew, paddler Kalea Andrew, and coach Jason Tarkong pose for a photo during the opening of the va'a competition in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday in Samoa.

Another victory in badminton

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The CNMI Badminton Team got win No. 2 in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa after outclassing Kiribati, 3-2, yesterday at the Multipurpose Gymnasium of the Fa'aleata Sports Complex.

Jordan Pangilinan and Nicole Malasarte paired in the mixed doubles and drew first blood for the Commonwealth.

The duo notched a 21-13 victory over Tooma Teuaika and Tinabora Tekeiaki in the first set and completed the sweep with a tougher 22-20 triumph in the second.

Andrew Galvez was next up for the CNMI and after laboring through a 22-20 win over Timwata Kabaua in the opening set, the former eased his way to a 21-11 victory in the second and moved his team one game away from downing Kiribati.

After losing back-to-back games, Kiribati finally made

it to the board and remained in contention when Teitiria Itumawa defeated Janelle Pangilinan in the women's singles, 21-14, 21-11.

However, Kiribati absorbed its fourth loss in as many games in the team event in the next pairing when Jordan partnered with Nathan Guerrero to sweep Kabaua and Teuaika in the men's doubles, 21-19, 21-17.

Kiribati then saved face in the last game with Tekeiaki and Utimawa prevailing against Malasarte and Pangilinan in the women's doubles, 21-12, 21-6.

The victory over Kiribati gave the CNMI a split on Day 2 of the competition, as the latter earlier bowed to New Caledonia, 0-5.

With a 2-3 record, the Northern Marianas Badminton Association-organized team is ranked No. 4 in the

See ANOTHER on Page 27

SAMOA PACIFIC GAMES PHOTO

The CNMI's Janelle Pangilinan gets ready near the net, while partner Andrew Galvez, left, stays back and team captain Nate Guerrero, right, looks on during their game against Samoa last Monday in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.

Lopsided win in men's tennis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The CNMI Men's National Tennis Team finally saw action in the XVI Pacific Games at the Apia Park in Samoa and demolished the Solomon Is-

lands, 3-0.

Colin Sinclair played in the first singles match and hammered Charlie Benjamin, 6-0, 6-0. Robert Schorr was the Commonwealth's other entry in the singles play and secured the early victory for his team after dominating Popai Leong, 6-1, 6-0.

After his straight set win,

Schorr returned to the court and teamed up with Ken Song in downing Leong and Benjamin, 6-2, 6-2.

With the 3-0 victory, the CNMI takes the early lead in Group D of the pool play elimination. Only the top finishers in each pool (four) will

See TENNIS on Page 27



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Colin Sinclair, right, joins a Solomon Islands player and the umpire for a group photo before the singles game in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Apia Park Tennis Courts in Samoa.